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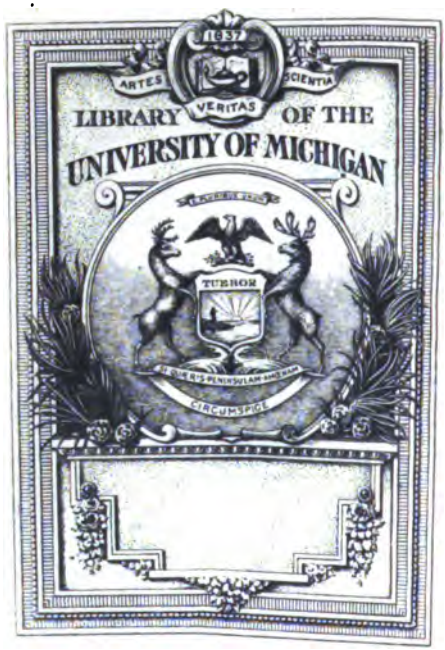

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS
Charlotte Augusta
PRINCESS OF WALES & OF SAXE COBURG

Engraved by J. Hopwood Jun.r from a Miniature in the possession of a Lady of Quality

Published by J. Asperne, Paternoster Row, London, Nov.r 1st 1817.

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London Published by THOMAS KELLY Paternoster Row Dec.1st 1817

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MEMOIRS

OF HER LATE ROYAL HIGHNESS

CHARLOTTE AUGUSTA,

Princess of Wales, &c.

(FROM INFANCY TO THE PERIOD OF HER MUCH LAMENTED DEATH, FUNERAL RITES, &c. &c.)

AND OF HER ILLUSTRIOUS CONSORT

Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld;

INCLUDING

A VARIETY OF ANECDOTES, HITHERTO UNPUBLISHED,

WITH

Specimens of Her Royal Highness' Compositions

IN

Prose, Poetry, and Music,

AND

FAC-SIMILES OF HER HAND-WRITING;

COMPRISING ALSO AN

HISTORICAL MEMOIR

OF

THE HOUSE OF SAXE-COBURG SAALFELD.

The whole Collected and arranged, from Authorized Sources only,

BY ROBERT HUISH, ESQ.

AUTHOR OF "THE PERUVIANS," &c. &c.

Quis talia fando
Myrmidonum Dolophumve aut duri miles Ulyssei
Temperet à lachrymis? VIRG.

ORNAMENTED WITH INTERESTING ENGRAVINGS.

London:

PRINTED FOR THOMAS KELLY, PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1818.

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PREFACE.

THE chief excellence of an historical Memoir of the private or public actions of an individual, rendered celebrated by the display and practice of eminent virtues, or the commission of heroic deeds, depends on its strict adherence to truth, and a positive rejection of all incidents or events which cannot be traced to an authentic or genuine source. In proportion, however, to the privacy of the mode of life which an individual may adopt, of whatever rank or station in life, is the difficulty of obtaining those authentic particulars, which ought to form the basis of the labours of the historian, and which alone can render him worthy of the confidence of the present age, or of posterity.

The life of the Princess Charlotte may be justly considered as one of privacy and seclusion; few of her actions transpired beyond the circuit of her own immediate residence, and were consequently only known to those few select individuals whom she honored with her confidence. To attempt, therefore, a faithful delineation of the private life of such an exalted individual, encircled but by few, and whose actions, though guided by the principles of virtue, possessed not any public notoriety from their splendor, or their political influence, might have been considered as wholly fruitless, in regard to a fidelity of colouring, or a strict adherence to those nice and distinct shades by which individual characters are particularly distinguished. The daily journalists, though guided by a laudable desire to catch every important event, as it floats down the stream of time, are yet often deceived in the validity or the truth of the objects which are presented to them; and thence a very nice discriminating power is necessary in the historian, who, from those

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treasures, selects the materials with which his own fabric is to be erected. In the arrangement, therefore, of the following work, a greater attention has been paid to the sources of private than to public information; and it is with feelings of a just and grateful pride, that a public acknowledgment is here made by the author, of the disinterested manner in which certain eminent and illustrious individuals stepped forward to assist him in the prosecution of his work, and without whose aid many of those interesting traits in the character, and those important events in the life of the lamented Princess, which are now first made public, would, perhaps, have never digressed beyond the knowledge of the circle, in which her Royal Highness immediately moved. The confidence which has been reposed in the author by one exalted individual in particular, will be ever remembered, with the most genuine sentiments of respect and esteem, and in no single instance will it be found that it has been abused.

The mean and insidious attempts which have been made by disappointed individuals to call in question the authenticity of these memoirs, for the purpose of palming upon the public a crude and undigested work of their own, have throughout been met, on our part, with that contempt which they deserve. The distinguished patronage and support of an enlightened public have accompanied us through our arduous undertaking; animated by their confidence, difficulties apparently insuperable have been overcome, and whilst displaying for the benefit of posterity, one of the brightest examples of female excellence and virtue, the interests of the country in a political sense, have not been overlooked. We wish only to be tried by the test of excellence—the only Test which merit ever seeks.

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INTRODUCTION.

IN future times, when the impartial historian collects for the advantage of posterity, the many momentous events which have characterized the present era, and from which the honour or the glory, the misery or the afflictions of the country have emanated,—in the wide range of his observations, no circumstance will rivet his attention more closely, or engross the powers of his heart and mind more forcibly, than that which has given rise to the present work.

Justly glorying in their political constitution, the people of this country attach a particular interest to every event which affects the succession to the throne. It is the grand principle of hereditary succession in one family, connected with the elevated rank assigned to royalty, that protects this nation against the evils of civil convulsions. The

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attainment of sovereign power is no longer a matter of doubt, a speculation, amongst us; it is as clearly ascertained and as well established as the order of nature. A subversion of the hereditary right of succession, either by forced or natural means, brings with it anarchy and confusion; it is a wholesome check on the encroachment of aristocratical power, and it is now a truth, admitted by every one, that, without an hereditary monarchical government, England would not for a single month enjoy that freedom, which distinguishes her so particularly from other European states, and to which she is indebted for the elevated rank she holds in the scale of nations.

England, after one of the most arduous contests ever recorded in her annals, in which, single-handed, she braved and defeated the confederated force of Europe, beheld herself rewarded for her exertions in the great cause of her national independence, and in the rescue of the majority of the European states from the lawless dominion of a tyrant's sceptre, by a glorious and an honourable peace. Admired and envied by surrounding nations, she stood triumphant on the pinnacle of her greatness; and her people, renowned for excellence in every art and science, were

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looking forward to the enjoyment of those blessings resulting from an unrestricted state of commerce, and from a more general intercourse with the civilised world. The partial evils, the natural result of a sudden transition from a state of war to that of peace, were gradually dispersing, and the most cheering prospects began to dawn upon the country.

Amongst those prospects, the fairest, the brightest, the most exhilarating in the nation, was the interesting situation of the presumptive heiress to the British throne. With her were connected the highest interests, as well as the highest hopes of the nation. She was the brightest ornament of the sphere in which she moved, a pattern to her own sex, and an object of universal admiration to the other. In the endearing relations of a daughter and a wife she had shone pre-eminent, and an admiring world hailed the approaching period when she was to shine forth in the still more tender one of mother. To her, the nation looked as the parent of its future sovereign; and well indeed was the expectation founded, that, under the guidance and superintendence of *such* a mother, a being worthy of wielding the sceptre of this mighty empire would have flourished to maturity. Cradled

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as she was in sorrow, and nursed in the school of grief, she had, by her dignified conduct, in prudently abstaining from any interference in the great political questions of the day, and, more than all, by her private worth, by her amiable qualities, and by the unlimited exercise of those eminent virtues which constitute the Christian character, gained the confidence, the esteem, and the love of the whole nation. She was the pole-star of its hopes, the tenderest object of its solicitude. Her ripening years were regarded with the anxiety bestowed on the culture of a tender exotic, transplanted from a better clime; and in the full blow of her beauty she charmed the gazer, and well repaid the care of those who nurtured so sweet a flower. Though outwardly invested with the regalia of royalty, and placed in a sphere of life, in which, in general, the minor considerations of the world lose their influence, and the practice of all the tender charities is absorbed and lost in the outward forms of ceremony and etiquette,—she, in the unsophisticated spirit of her native goodness, assumed the character of the private station, and descended from the sphere of the princess to become the benefactress of her people.

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It is in our moral as it is in our political system:—The inhabitants of a city sleep in peace, when, on a sudden, the earthquake splits the earth, and ingulphs them in one common ruin;—the sailor sings at his helm, and the next moment his vessel strikes against the sunken rock, and the waves close over him;—the eye that beamed with joy in the morning may in the evening, be closed in tears; and the proudest hopes of a nation may, on the very eve of their consummation, be converted into lamentation and woe. Such is now the fate of Britain; her tutelary angel is gone! She shone like a bright meteor in the splendid track of her course, and on a sudden vanished from our eyes, no more to bless us with her radiance. The shock was felt the more, as coming unexpected; it came like the charged shell, exploding amongst us with a horrible crash, destroying at "one fell swoop" the hopes, the happiness of a nation! Nor came it singly: a two-fold horror accompanied it; for the mother and the offspring fell together! They now press one silent bed; and death lies upon them like an untimely frost on the fairest flowers of the field!

It is near the cold and lifeless remains of

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youth, beauty, and moral loveliness, that a lesson addressed to young and old will operate with irresistible force. It is leaning over the shroud that covers departed greatness that kings learn that they are mortal, and feel that to be good is more solacing than to be great. To be thus lamented, princes must furnish the same noble example in public and private life. No flattery penetrates the tomb: Justice holds the scales, and weighs the merits of the dead. May the lesson that is communicated in the event which the country so strongly deplores make a due impression on the governing and the governed! May it teach the former that a constant and sacred regard for the nation's rights, as well as for public and private morals, presents to them the only chance of being loved in life, and lamented in death! The country has shewn, by its acute grief on this occasion, that it is capable of the highest and most disinterested affection for the family of its rulers: but it is not for the trappings of royalty that they have this veneration: this tribute is reserved for virtue; and may the people ever make this discrimination! In closing this sad tribute to the illustrious dead, let the great moral lesson which is conveyed in her sudden and prema-

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ture loss be not urged in vain: no event could contain a more striking instance of the vanity of human hopes, the instability of worldly grandeur, and the frailty of human ties. But the memory of her virtues, public and private, will live for ever; and, after the lapse of ages, the name of the princess will be pronounced with love and respect; and her conduct will be adduced as a bright example to persons of her own sex, and particularly to such as shall hereafter move in her elevated station.

What an awful, what an important lesson, does this sudden and unexpected event present to our contemplation!—The hand of Heaven has weighed heavily upon us; and, deeply as we deplore the keenness of the affliction with which it has visited us, we yet must bend in mute submission to its will, and adore the inscrutable Power, which, from "seeming ill, produceth real good."

The decease of this amiable princess places before our chilled imagination the frailty of life, and the uncertainty of our dearest connexions. It is felt like a ravage committed by the inscrutable will of Providence in the bosom of all regular society; and it induces the awful and solemn reflection, how invete-

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rate those maladies must have been in the moral and political body which required such a sacrifice to bring us to a due sense of our situation; for we feel—deeply feel—not only in a moral but a political sense—that we have lost, in the death of our princess, a blooming daughter; while our progeny lament in unfeigned sorrow the deprivation of a beloved sister, whose loss the whole earth cannot replace, for to all the ends of the earth has gone forth the fame of her polished manners, her social virtues, and her benevolent heart. Who can, without being paralyzed at the sight, behold the cold and inanimate remains of one, who but a short time before possessed youth, health, beauty, and the highest rank? To think that the object which there lies insensible—deaf to the loudest invocations—indifferent to the poignant grief caused by her loss—and heedless of the tears which flow to the memory of her virtues—was but a few moments before alive to all the endearments and charities of our nature—is a reflection that fills the mind more with awe even than with pity. At such a sight how baseless do all the fondest visions of felicity appear! how weak and fragile our most cherished hopes! Can a stronger evidence be afforded of the limits,

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the brevity, and the mutability of every thing, as it respects our present state of existence?

If we direct our view to the severe calamities which have befallen this country, as a just and seasonable interposition of Heaven to humble us, and check the excesses of our national pride, we cannot advert to two events of a more afflicting nature than those which have occurred in the annals of our Royal Family, and which must strike home in the most acute manner to every breast, not wholly bereft of sympathy and feeling. We allude to one, who is not yet dead, and who nevertheless partakes not of the joys nor the affections of his kindred nor his people. To him, there is neither sun nor moon, nor kingdom, nor wife, nor children, nor subjects. The little world in which he dwells is a solitude, peopled only by imagination; but the inhabitants are not those which haunt the guilty mind, even when reason is not overthrown. It is said that ministering angels are the companions of his thoughts in the loneliness of the circle by which he is cut off from rational intercourse either with this world or the next. How pure a spirit is then gone before him, to minister peace to him in his hermit hours on earth; and to give him a foretaste

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of that bliss to which he must soon be called! That being, whom on earth he so ardently loved, may now be the visitant of his nightly watchings, and in the darkness of his state he may hear the whispers of consolation from those lips, which to us on earth are henceforth closed for ever. In the midst of our afflictions here, some beam of consolation may dawn upon us, when we reflect that on the wings of this blessed spirit, his may be carried to those regions where the agony of his wounds will be hushed on the bosom of his Maker.

We turn from the shrouded corpse to reflect on the frailty of sublunary greatness:—how dark!—how inscrutable here appear the ways of Providence!—But "my thoughts are not as your thoughts," saith that almighty Being by whom kings reign and nations are upheld, and at whose command all flesh returns to that dust whence it was originally created. The tear of affliction may flow, and the sigh of grief break from the burthened heart; yet resignation to the will of Heaven is the duty of the Christian: to that we must bow with implicit faith, and adore the Power, which from darkness can lead us unto light, from misery to joy.

Having thus primarily depicted a faint

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sketch of the melancholy event which has given rise to the present work, it will be necessary to enter into a brief analysis of the principles which will be adhered to in the execution of it. The actions of monarchs and their immediate descendants are viewed through a different medium than those of individuals of a less exalted station; they become, as it were, the property of the nation over which they rule, and are examined according to their respective bearings on its prosperity or its injury. In proportion as the sphere of action of an individual increases, he rises in the scale of society; and his responsibility to the moral and political laws is augmented according to the degree of rank which is assigned to him; but the ordeal, which the actions of exalted individuals undergo, is seldom that of truth; revenge, malignity, or party spirit, often attaches criminality to an action to suit its own sinister purposes, and hunts down the character of one individual to blazon that of another, more faulty, perhaps, than the former. It falls not to the lot of every one to lift the veil which hides the actions of royalty, and then the faint glimpses which are caught through a clouded medium, are by malice converted into a clear and lu-

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minous observation of the action through its most remote ramifications; and a baneful construction is induced, to answer some private or malicious view. It is, besides, no easy task to follow a chain of circumstances from their outset to the catastrophe, where private interests or national prejudices require that certain links of it should not be exposed to public view. The positive commission of the act becomes immerged in the probability of it, and then invention is often exercised to supply the links which may be wanting, which, from a deficiency of positive data, assume a decided character and complexion, according to the views of the agent. The higher the object, the more conspicuous the mark, and there are few characters at which the shafts of malevolence may not be aimed. It becomes, however, the duty of the historian, in the delineation of an exalted character, to divest himself of all prejudice and partiality; to trace the course of events to their pure and genuine source, before it be sullied by the feculence of party spirit; and, with a due sense of the infirmities of human nature, to throw the veil of Christian charity and indulgence over the blemishes which may be discovered.

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There are circumstances of deprivation attendant on persons born to a sceptre, which fix their ratio of social happiness at a point far inferior to that experienced by those in more humble stations of life. The truth is seldom, if ever, spoken *to* them, and very seldom *of* them. They are debarred the enjoyment of the pleasures arising from disinterested friendship; and, animated by the same desires, and influenced by the same wants, they stand aloof from their fellow-creatures. They are deprived by their situation, of all those nameless, but numerous comforts, which smooth the path of life, and are found necessary even by the most exalted. Such is the unfortunate lot of royalty, which, if we duly reflect on, will incline us oftener to the exercise of pity than to that of condemnation.

Far be it from us, in the prosecution of this work, to pass an eulogium on the dead at the expense of the living: the former is beyond our censure or our praise; and we hold the tear too sacred, which is not yet dry on the cheek of the latter, to aggravate their sorrows by an immediate recurrence to those scenes, the memory of which is attended with regret and pain. We turn with indignation from

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the whispers of Calumny; we heed not the wink of the eye of malevolence, nor the frown on the scowling brow of Malice:—our basis is truth; our superstructure candour, Christian charity, and forbearance. Conscious of the imperfections of our nature, we delight not in the exposure of the faults of others; and, aware of the disposition of the world to aggravate and magnify the errors of those placed in an elevated rank of life, we shall sift every information which is transmitted to us in the most scrupulous and fastidious manner: we will not be made the dupe of the designing, nor the tool of the political emissary.

The life of the illustrious individual, whose Memoirs are now under our hands, presents, indeed, few scenes of political interest for the contemplation of the historian or the philosopher; for the orbit in which she moved extended very little beyond the circle of private life, but that circle contained every thing that was good—that was great and virtuous. It was in the display of every Christian virtue, in the exercise of every religious duty, in the fulfilment of every moral obligation, and in the practice of every conjugal affection, that she shone conspicuous; and therefore, as far as the dearest relations of human existence ex-

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tend, the history of her life will assume a decided character of importance, and will be held forth as a model of female virtue, excellence, and perfection.

Acquainted with the wishes of her own heart, we shall lift the veil with a delicate hand in the exposure of those scenes which first threw the shade of sorrow o'er her brow. The confidence which has been reposed in us shall not be abused: we will not harrow the feelings of the parent in the justification of the child; and at the close of our labours we confidently anticipate the applause and approbation of a liberal and enlightened public.

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HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

George. Augustus. Frederick.

PRINCE REGENT.

Engraved by Lilley and Austen from a Miniature in the possession of the Marchioness

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Published May 1st 1811 by Longman Hurst Rees Orme & Brown

MEMOIRS,

&c. &c.

AMONGST the Potentates of Europe, not one can boast of so fine a progeny as the monarch of these realms. Himself, the pattern of every domestic virtue, he beheld with delight his offspring arriving at maturity, and in the midst of them he shone like a patriarch of old, surrounded by the dearest objects of his affections. Within the circle of his family he found a solace from the cares of royalty; and in their affectionate endearments a relief from the duties of executive power.

Amongst his progeny, his elder son, the present Regent, shone conspicuous for manly beauty, for princely accomplishments, and for mental endowments. Gifted with a high and noble spirit, in the gay and volatile season of youth, he roamed from beauty to beauty; which, like the fruit bursting with luxuriance, fell spontaneously within his power. That the affections of an individual of so exalted a rank, and of accomplishments so rare, should not be considered as a prize

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of intrinsic value, can only be questioned by those whose knowledge of the world and of man is confined within very narrow bounds. The cold-blooded alliances of royalty, which are formed on the basis of political connexions, and established on the ground of national aggrandizement, carry with them something repugnant to the generous feelings of spontaneous affection. The heart partakes not in the choice, and disgust and aversion are too often the result of these misshapen marriages. As the heir apparent to these realms, the residence of the Prince of Wales was necessarily restricted within the limits of the kingdom, and consequently no personal acquaintance could be formed with any of the Princesses of the foreign courts, worthy of receiving his hand, and being elevated to the high rank of Consort to the presumptive monarch of one of the most powerful nations of the world. The interests of the nation however required, for the purpose of establishing a legitimate succession to the throne, that a matrimonial alliance should be formed between the Prince of Wales and a foreign Princess, and the necessary arrangements were made for the purpose. It is certain that the first idea of the establishment of the Prince originated with a great personage; and by him was the illustrious female selected, who was to be the destined partner of his son on the British throne.

His late Serene Highness Charles William Ferdinand, Duke of Brunswick Wolfenbüttel, was

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married to her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta, sister to his present Majesty. Amongst the issue of this marriage, was Caroline Louisa, who, at the age of twenty-six, was invited to become the consort of her cousin, the Prince of Wales. It appears from well authenticated documents that this marriage had been long upon the tapis in the royal circle, before any *official* notice of it was communicated to the Cabinet; and the first intimation which the ministers of state received of it, was the royal command to institute the necessary preparations for the embassy, and other forms attendant on matters of that high importance.

An application was then made to Parliament for a suitable provision for the royal pair, and Carlton-House was to be furnished with all possible magnificence for their reception. It was stipulated that the Prince on his marriage should be exonerated from his debts, and his annual allowance was accordingly raised from 60,000*l.* to 125,000*l.* a year; out of which sum 25,000*l.* were set apart for the discharge of his debts. To this were added 27,000*l.* for preparations for the marriage; 28,000*l.* for jewels and plate, and 26,000*l.* for the completion of Carlton-House.

The Juno of 50 guns, two yachts, four frigates, and two sloops of war, were appointed to escort this illustrious female to the British shores, and, to give every possible eclat to the mission, the Prince despatched some of his principal officers of state to attend on the Princess, and maids

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of honour were specially appointed for the purpose.

The eyes of the whole nation were now directed to the arrival of the Princess of Brunswick; congratulatory addresses were prepared, and the powers of poetry were invoked to hail her arrival on British land. Dr. Hurdis, the Professor of Poetry in the University of Oxford, stood the foremost in the poetic ranks; and, in honour of the expected Princess, he called upon all the powers of the air to grant a genial season; and although the inclemency of the weather which succeeded is still remembered, yet the invocation is such as the sternest powers might have heard with complacency.

Impending season! to the frozen North
Bid the strong gale, and low redundant cloud,
Whose gloom down-stooping ev'ry hill-top sweeps,
Retreat. O'er hyperborean regions shed
Thy feath'ry show'rs, and drift it with thy breath;
Bind other streams with ice, and o'er the lakes
Make firm as rock with thy congealing frown;
Elsewhere be tyrannous, but gentle here;
Here smile serene, and let incautious Spring,
Decoy'd or ere her season, on thy brow
An od'rous chaplet place of early buds,
And deck with blossoms thy snow-sprinkled crown.
Be gay, dull season, and inspir'd at length
By ling'ring Autumn and returning Spring,
Learn all their dance, and be as brisk as they;
Let the cold sceptre from thy hand depart,
And Spring be queen instead, to welcome home
Brunswick's fair daughter, and before her strew
All vernal beauty on the British shore.

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS

Caroline

PRINCESS OF WALES.

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The north of Germany being at that time the seat of war, the Princess was obliged to take a circuitous route to reach the sea port where the British vessels were in readiness to receive her. Had her mind been tinctured with superstition, or had she been inclined from casual circumstances to draw a prognostic of her future life, the first view of the shores of Albion would have given ample scope to the powers of her imagination. A thick and heavy gloom appeared to hang over the island, and the mists which enveloped it seemed anxious to conceal from her view the sight of that country, where she was destined to experience such an accumulated weight of sorrow and distress.

Flattering, however, was the reception which she met with on her landing—she was hailed with transports of joy, and addresses of congratulation on her arrival poured in from all parts of the kingdom. England received her as its future Queen, and the succession to the British throne appeared to be confirmed in the illustrious House of Brunswick. The fame of her personal charms and her accomplishments had preceded her arrival, and her first appearance at court tended by no means to discredit the rumours which had been so industriously circulated. Her *entrée* was truly majestic, accompanied at the same time with a sweetness and affability of manners, which rivetted the admiration of all who beheld her. The intelligence of her eyes—the high animation of

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her countenance, the whiteness and regularity of her teeth; the simple and elegant manner in which her hair, of a beautiful light auburn colour, was dressed, all conspired to render her one of the most interesting objects of the day. Her taste in every part of her dress was equally elegant, from which it was prognosticated that her Royal Highness would become the standard of fashion.

April 8, 1795, was the day appointed for the nuptials of the Royal Pair, and they were solemnized on the evening of that day, at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The procession to and from the Chapel was in the following order:

The PROCESSION of the Bride.

Drums and Trumpets.
Kettle Drums.
Serjeant Trumpeter.
Master of the Ceremonies.
Bride's Gentleman Usher between the Two senior Heralds.
His Majesty's Vice Chamberlain.
His Majesty's Lord Chamberlain.

THE BRIDE,

in her nuptial habit, with a Coronet, led by his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence.

Her train borne by four unmarried daughters of Dukes and Earls, viz.

Lady Mary Osborne, Lady Caroline Villiers,
Lady Charlotte Spencer, Lady Charlotte Legge.

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And her Royal Highness was attended by the ladies of her household.

On entering the Chapel, her Royal Highness was conducted to her seat, prepared for her near her Majesty's chair of state. The Master of the Ceremonies with the Gentleman Usher retired to the places assigned them.

The Lord Chamberlain and Vice Chamberlain, with a Herald, returned to attend the Bridegroom; the senior Herald remaining in the Chapel to conduct the several persons to their respective places.

The BRIDEGROOM'S Procession,

In the same order as that of the Bride, with the addition of the Officers of his Highness's Household.

His Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES,

In his Collar of the Order of the Garter, supported by Two unmarried Dukes, Duke of Bedford, and Duke of Roxburgh.

And his Royal Highness being conducted to his seat in the Chapel Royal, the Lord Chamberlain, Vice Chamberlain, and Two Heralds, returned to attend his Majesty.

THEIR MAJESTIES' Procession.

Drums and Trumpets as before.
Knight Marshal.
Pursuivants.
Herald.
Treasurer of the Household.
Master of the Horse.
Two married Dukes.
Duke of Leeds. Duke of Beaufort.
Lord Steward of the Household.

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Provincial King of Arms.

Serjeant at Arms. { Lord Privy Seal. Archbishop of York. Lord President of the Council. Lord High Chancellor. Archbishop of Canterbury. } Serjeant at Arms.

Gentleman Usher. { Garter Principal King of Arms, with his Sceptre. } Gentleman Usher.

The Earl Marshal with his Staff.

Princes of the Blood Royal,

Prince William.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester.

His Royal Highness the Duke of York.

Vice Chamberlain of the Household.

Sword of State, borne by the Duke of Portland.

Lord Chamberlain of the Household.

HIS MAJESTY

In the Collar of the Order of the Garter.

Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard.

Colonel of the Life Guard in waiting.

Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners.

The Lord of the Bed Chamber in waiting.

Master of the Robes.

Groom of the Bed Chamber.

Vice Chamberlain to the Queen.

The Queen's Lord Chamberlain.

HER MAJESTY.

The Queen's Master of the Horse.

Their Royal Highnesses

Princess Augusta Sophia,

Princess Elizabeth,

Princess Mary,

Princess Sophia,

Princess Amelia.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of York.

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Princess Sophia of Gloucester,
Supported severally by their Gentlemen Ushers.
The Ladies of her Majesty's Bedchamber.
Maids of Honour.
Women of her Majesty's Bed Chamber.

At the conclusion of the marriage ceremony their Majesties retired to their chairs of state under the canopy, while the anthem was performing.

The evening concluded with very splendid illuminations, and other public demonstrations of joy, throughout the metropolis. Addresses from the City of London, and various other places, were presented on the occasion.

Rare is the example of connubial happiness resulting from the matrimonial alliances of royalty. No opportunities are given to study the character, temper, or dispositions of the respective parties, or to excite that admiration of each other which is the basis of mutual love and esteem. Rumour, indeed, is called in to supply the place of actual observation, and in all cases of this nature it generally exaggerates the good qualities, and so qualifies the bad ones, that a relative degree of perfection becomes attached to the character which after experience most wofully contradicts. State policy may demand amongst the continental Powers a stronger bond of union between two individual states, by a matrimonial alliance in their royal or imperial families. The interests of the two states become thereby more identified with each other, their power becomes more consolidated, and their views of ambition or future con-

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quest more easily realized. With this country it is, however, differently constituted; we stand on the basis of our own strength, able to resist encroachment on our liberties or an infraction of our rights. No aggrandizement, no addition to its power, can result from foreign matrimonial alliances; and, therefore, as far as the illustrious individuals of our Royal Family are concerned, it must be allowed, that in the choice of those persons to be connected to them by marriage, on whom the hereditary succession to the throne must necessarily depend,—individual feeling might be more generally consulted, and the happiness of the parties established by a congeniality of sentiment, of dispositions, of temper and pursuits.

These reflections have been excited by the sudden and unexpected turn which the marriage of the Prince of Wales assumed; the nation received with joy the tidings of the pregnancy of the Princess, and, although rumour had been busy in circulating reports of a total want of mutual esteem and of confidence subsisting between the royal pair, yet they were considered as the mere effusions of private intrigue, and a very slight degree of importance was attached to them. The liberal and the candid saw in them a base attempt to sully the reputation of a virtuous female, and they who penetrated still deeper into the affair beheld the machinations of those favourites, who had enjoyed the royal counte-

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nance, but who now saw their importance diminished, and their influence on the verge of being destroyed.

In the mean time preparations were made for the reception of the royal heir; the bright prospect of a regular succession to the throne was highly pleasing to the nation, and on no occasion was the attachment of the people to the illustrious house of Brunswick more conspicuously displayed. The anxiety evinced by an exalted personage on this occasion, will never be forgotten by those who had the happiness of witnessing it. It was the anxiety of the parent, coupled with the patriotism of the monarch, who sees in legitimate succession a safeguard against civil dissensions and intestine feuds. It was the first of his inquiries in the morning, the last on his retiring to rest; and, with a due sense of that religion, the exercise of which had thrown such a pure and unsullied splendour over a well-spent life, he, morning and night, surrounded by his family, offered up his prayers to that Being, who "can soothe the pangs of the mother, and still the cries of the infant."

In the latter end of December, 1795, orders were issued to the cabinet ministers and other personages, whose attendance is prescribed on the birth of a royal child, to hold themselves in readiness, and on the 7th January, 1796, at ten in the morning, the Princess of Wales was safely delivered of a daughter, and the accouchement

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was conducted with the most solemn formalities. The personages present at the birth, were the Duke of Gloucester, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Lord President of the Council, the Duke of Leeds, the Lord Chamberlain, Earl Cholmondeley, Lord Thurlow, and the ladies of the Princess of Wales's bed-chamber; the Prince of Wales was also present on this interesting and important occasion. At one period of her illness, the life of the Princess was in the most imminent danger, and it was rumoured that it was saved by the intelligent friendship of a distinguished statesman; the young Princess was christened according to the form of the Church of England, and received the name of Charlotte Augusta, the former being the name of her grandmother, the latter of her mother. The christening was solemnized on Thursday evening, the 11th of February 1796, in the great drawing-room, at St. James's, by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury. The sponsors were their Majesties in person, and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Brunswick, represented by her Royal Highness the Princess Mary.

Torrents of addresses were poured in from all parts of the country on the birth of the Princess Charlotte Augusta, and the City of London was anxious to present an address of congratulation on the happy event, to his Royal Highness; but, on the 29th of January, the City Remembrancer was informed by Earl Cholmondeley, that his Royal High-

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ness being under the necessity of dismissing his establishment, he was unable to receive those congratulatory compliments, in a manner suitable to his rank, and with the respect due to the capital of the empire; but at the same time he expressed great regret in not having it in his power to shew a proper regard for the good wishes of the City of London towards himself and the Princess of Wales.

In the ode for the new year 1796, the Poet Laureat beautifully alludes to the birth of this hopeful scion of royalty.

Now strike a livelier chord!—this happy day,
Selected from the circling year,
To celebrate a name to Britain dear,
From Britain's sons demands a festive lay.
Mild Sovereign of our Monarch's soul,
Whose eye's meek radiance can control
The pow'rs of care, and grace a throne
With each calm joy to life domestic known;
Propitious Heav'n has o'er thy head
Blossoms of richer fragrance shed,
Than all th' assiduous Muse can bring,
Cull'd from the honey'd stores of Spring.
For see amid wild winter's hours,
A *Bud* its silken folds displays,
Sweeter than all the chalic'd flow'rs
That crown thy own ambrosial May.
O! may thy smiles, blest Infant! prove,
Omens of concord and of love.—
Bid the loud strain of martial triumph raise,
And tune to softer mood the warbling reed of praise.

The portentous storm which threatened to subvert the happiness of the royal pair, and the low

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murmurs of which had been heard for some time at a distance, now began to shew itself in all its direful effects. The nation was lulled into the pleasing reflection that the heir apparent to the throne, would, like his venerable sire, be surrounded by a numerous progeny, and that in the endearments of his children, in the sweets of domestic life, and in the practice of parental duties, he would find a solace from the cares of royalty, and enjoy that unsophisticated, heartfelt satisfaction, which is never to be found in the noise and turmoil of the midnight revel. Weak and futile were here the hopes of the nation. In April, 1796, exactly twelve months after the marriage, and three after the birth of the Princess Charlotte, the first decisive proof was given of the interruption of the connubial happiness of the royal pair, by a choice of separate dwellings. The rupture was too fatally confirmed by a letter sent from the Prince to the Princess of Wales, dated Windsor Castle, April 30, 1796, the substance of which had been previously conveyed in a message by Countess Cholmondeley to her Royal Highness; but it was thought to be infinitely too important to rest merely upon a verbal communication, and therefore she desired that his Royal Highness's pleasure should be communicated to her in writing.

This lamentable separation of the royal pair had a decided influence on the future happiness and character of their daughter, the lamented object

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of these Memoirs; and to which, in a great degree, may be ascribed the firmness of disposition, the promptness and decision of action, and the strength of filial duty, for which she was so eminently distinguished. It will be necessary to enter further into detail of the events which immediately succeeded the separation of the royal pair.

In conformity to the desires of the Princess of Wales, that the wishes of his Royal Highness should be communicated in writing, the following letter was written:—

Windsor Castle, April 30, 1797.

MADAM,

As Lord Cholmondeley informs me, that you wish I would define in writing the terms upon which we are to live, I shall endeavour to explain myself upon that head with as much clearness, and with as much propriety, as the nature of the subject will admit. Our inclinations are not in our power, nor should either of us be held answerable to the other, because nature has not made us suitable to each other. Tranquil and comfortable society is, however, in our power; let our intercourse, therefore, be restricted to that, and I will distinctly subscribe to the condition * which you required through Lady Cholmondeley, that, even in the event of any accident happening to my daughter, which, I trust, Providence in his mercy will avert, I shall not

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* Although her Royal Highness upon the receipt of the message alluded to, could not act in an other manner than to conform to the arrangement laid down by his Royal Highness, yet she desired it might beun equivocally understood, that any arrangement once made should be considered as final, and that his Royal Highness should not, under any plea, retain the right, under any circumstances whatever, of altering it.

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infringe the terms of the restriction, by proposing at any period a connexion of a more particular nature. I shall now finally close this disagreeable correspondence, trusting, that as we have completely explained ourselves to each other, the rest of our lives will be passed in uninterrupted tranquillity.

I am, Madam,

With great truth, very sincerely yours,

(Signed) GEORGE P.

The answer of the Princess of Wales to the above letter was at once dignified and respectful. She appeals to the King, as her monarch and her father; and to him, who knew from experience the acuteness of a parent's feelings, is to be ascribed the concession of the Prince of Wales in allowing his daughter to remain under the affectionate care and superintendence of her mother, during the first eight years of her life, which ingrafted in the bosom of the child an unalterable and unalienable affection for the mother.

Whilst these unfortunate dissensions were carrying on between her august parents, the young Princess grew up in loveliness and innocence. At a very early age she exhibited those distinctive traits of character, which afterwards, ripening to maturity, rendered her an object of universal admiration. The latent germs of intellectual ability were every day seen bursting forth in rich exuberance, and her mind appeared to aim at objects far beyond the study or attention of the majority of youth. To those who are accustomed to the training of the infant mind, the observation

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must be trite, that every thing depends upon the early bias which is given to the powers of the mind, and to a just discrimination of the extent, and proper application of those powers. To discover and to fix upon the early bent and inclinations of the human character, is a task, the execution of which requires more than ordinary powers, and which can only be fulfilled by incessant study and application. To check the luxuriance of certain dispositions, and to encourage the growth of others, requires the skilful hand of the master; and, therefore, no little applause is due to the individual who trained and nurtured the infant mind of the Princess Charlotte; who discovered the talents which lay dormant in it, and which only required proper cultivation to exhibit her hereafter as a model of genuine virtue. Her mind appeared to be early imbued with a sense of religion, as the following extract from the journal of the late pious Bishop of London, Dr. Porteus, will testify.

"Yesterday, the 6th August, 1801, I passed a "very pleasant day at Shrewsbury House, near "Shooter's Hill, the residence of the Princess "Charlotte of Wales. The day was fine, the "prospect extensive and beautiful, taking in a "large reach of the Thames which was covered "with vessels of various sizes and descriptions. "We saw a good deal of the young Princess; "she is a most captivating and engaging child, "and considering the high station she may here-

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" after fill, a most interesting and important one. " She repeated to me several hymns with great " correctness and propriety, and on being told " when she went to South End in Essex, (as she " afterwards did for the benefit of sea-bathing,) " she would then be in my diocese, she fell down " on her knees and begged my blessing. I gave " it to her with all my heart, and with my earnest " secret prayers to God that she might adorn her " illustrious station with every Christian grace; and " that if ever she became the queen of this truly " great and glorious country, she might be the " means of diffusing virtue, piety, and happiness, " through every part of her dominions."

It is a pleasant task to the historian to trace the events of a short, but a well-spent life, when founded on the principles of virtue, piety, and religion. He feels conscious to himself that he is presenting a model to posterity, by which the youth of both sexes can so regulate their lives, that in this world they will meet with the approbation of their own conscience; and, in the next, that crown of glory, which there awaits the virtuous and the good.

The years of infancy, in whatever station of life the object may be, present few materials on which an interesting superstructure can be raised. The character is yet in the rough, as the clay in the potter's hands ready to be fashioned and decorated according to the will of the artist. The pursuits of children, will in general lead to a just

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estimate of their dispositions, their predominant virtues or their vices; but too little attention is paid to this great touchstone of the inward man, and many a youthful trait, indicative of the future character, passes unnoticed, either from a want of discernment or wilful blindness; and then no clue can be obtained to a correct delineation of the individual, until freed from the control of others, we see the object upon the great stage of the world, acting from the dictates of its own unbiassed judgment and inclination. A simple remark, excited by a peculiar combination of circumstances, will often give a greater insight into the tone and feelings of the infant mind, than could have been produced by the most methodical investigation, or the most profound analytical inquiry. The following anecdote will testify the early impressions which the mind of the Princess Charlotte received in regard to the obedience of the sovereign to the laws of the country; and we must admire the individual, who, being herself born to the prerogatives of royalty, could, at the age of seven, utter a sentiment so truly agreeable to the British constitution.

Being one evening present when a game of chess was playing, one of the parties suddenly exclaimed, "Check Mate." "What is Check Mate?" inquired the Princess. She was answered, "It is when the king is *en prise* by any particular piece, and cannot move without falling into the hands of an enemy." "That is a bad

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situation indeed, for a king," said the Princess; "but that can never be the fate of the king of England, so long as he conforms to the laws; and then he will meet with protection from his subjects."

The heart of the Princess Charlotte appeared in her infancy to be alive to the most generous sympathies of our nature. Amongst the early admonitions of her mother, the exercise of charity was particularly inculcated. She was taught never to pass a beggar without affording him relief; and that the mite given in secret, to succour the aged and the helpless, was more acceptable in the eyes of Heaven, than hundreds squandered by the hand of ostentation. She therefore formed a little hoard, which she denominated the "beggars' purse;" and never did she behold a mendicant, but her little heart throbbed with joy in tendering him the welcome pittance. Grand and beautiful are the precepts of the Christian religion, and never were they exemplified with greater force than in the actions of this royal child. The advantages nd the blessings attending on the practice of those precepts had been constantly impressed upon her mind; and that impression was never effaced to the last hour of her existence. May the following anecdote be transcribed and placed before the view of the rising generation, especially those of an elevated rank, and may they learn from it the exercise of that virtue, which ennobles an

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exalted station, and without which, all the titles of the earth are insignificant and unsubstantial. "Let little children come to me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven," said our Saviour; and how worthy this child was to inherit that kingdom, the following will testify.

One morning, the Princess Charlotte was enjoying her usual walk, accompanied by a single attendant, when she saw a boy very ragged in his attire, sitting under a hedge, and crying from the pain of a wound which he had on one of his hands. Impelled by the innate goodness of her heart, she hastened to the boy, and inquired the cause of his tears. He shewed her the wound on his hand, which, from a want of covering, was exposed to the cold influence of the air, and without hesitation, she took her handkerchief, and was proceeding to bind the wound, when she was checked by her attendant, from a fear that some injurious consequences might ensue. "No harm can happen to me," said the lovely child; "have I not read in my Bible, that He who was greater than any earthly king, healed the wounds of the leper; and shall I then not follow his example, and bind the wounds of this poor boy?"

A strong enthusiasm of character, which was construed by many into a violence of temper, manifested itself in her Royal Highness at a very early period. She never qualified her opinion of persons nor of things, but spoke it boldly and without consideration. There was also often

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mixed a degree of sarcasm in her observations, which often exposed her to the severe reproof of the guardians of her education; and, on one of these occasions, she said, reprove me for uttering a falsehood, but never for speaking the truth.

The time was now fast approaching when her Royal Highness was to experience the severe affliction of being removed from the society of her mother, and from circumstances which threw a melancholy shade over the opening years of her life; the nicest feelings of her affectionate heart were to be lacerated by the unfortunate dissensions of her parents, and to her young and sensible mind, a choice of evils presented itself, from which she saw no immediate relief; the ardent love which she felt for her mother impelled her to espouse her cause; and the sincere affection which she justly entertained for her father, prompted her to exonerate him from every imputation of harshness towards her mother. She was fast verging towards that age, when a just discrimination of right and wrong, as far as concerns the actions of others, begins to display its operations; and from a temperament so naturally warm and enthusiastic as the Princess Charlotte's, the opinion resulting from that discrimination was often undisguisedly expressed; some conclusions were thence unwarrantably drawn, which, reaching a certain quarter, rendered the vigilance of the parental eye more necessary, in order to avert the effects of the influence of another personage,

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which appeared to be rapidly increasing over the actions and opinions of the young Princess.

The system of her education was therefore changed, and Lady De Clifford was appointed to the important and responsible situation of governess. His Majesty, who, by the customary law of England, as well as by the feudal, is guardian of all infants, and, of course, more particularly of his grand-daughter, and the heiress presumptive of his crown, selected the Bishop of Exeter, afterwards translated to the see of Salisbury, as her private tutor; and a divine of more eminent piety, of profound learning, and of amiable manners and disposition, could not have been selected. Under the Bishop of Exeter, a reverend divine Dr. Nott acted as a sub-preceptor. There was no part of her education to which a more exemplary attention was paid, than to instruct her in the principles of the christian religion, and to instil into her mind an ardent attachment to the ecclesiastical establishment of this country. It must not, however, be supposed, that any attempt was made to impress upon her mind any illiberal ideas respecting those modes of faith which dissented from the established one, or to check the growth of the true principles of religious toleration. In the first place, her mind was too enlarged and of too liberal a cast to admit of any such impressions; and, in the second, the enlightened character of her preceptor was a sufficient guarantee against any attempt to inculcate those principles, which would

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be contrary to the constitution of the country, and which are the basis of that throne which she was born to ornament by her virtues. I rejoice, said her Royal Highness one day to her preceptor, at the religious toleration manifested in this country; my station obliges me to adopt one established mode of faith, but I discard all sectarian animosities, and look upon virtue and good works to be the sole rule of our conduct, and the true criterion of the human character.

Her studies were urged with singular assiduity. Those who look upon royal life as unmixed indulgence, may be surprised to know that, with the heir apparent of England, the day's tuition generally began at six in the morning, and continued, with slight intermission, until the evening. The labour may have been too severe, and rather devised with a view to the attainment of the knowledge desirable in the station which she was destined to fill, than to the health, which should have been the first consideration. But her acquirements were certainly of an order much superior to those of females in general society. Her accomplishments were not confined to her own language, but extended to an acquaintance with foreign and classical literature. Of this fact, indeed, no doubt can exist; since it is confirmed by the authority of the late venerable Bishop of London, who, in a conversation, which he states to have taken place at her mother's house at Blackheath, reports her not only to have been of

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the most inquisitive, but of the most intelligent mind. He adds (and the report is upon record), that he found her extremely well versed in all the branches of English literature suited to her age, and that her progress in moral and christian studies far exceeded his expectation. Whilst the more solid and serious pursuits of education were in the course of acquisition, the elegant and refined parts were not overlooked nor neglected. Her Royal Highness was an excellent musician; she performed on the harp, the piano, and the guitar, with more than usual skill. Her voice was not powerful, but sweet, and scientifically modulated. She had a most excellent ear, and a brilliant execution.

Of her exalted spirit, and of her dislike to those false and exaggerated encomiums, which are in general lavished upon individuals of her elevated rank, the following anecdote will testify.

A foreigner, not now in England, instructed her Royal Highness in singing and music. On one occasion she performed to a large party, and was of course highly applauded; but she was conscious she did not deserve it. Turning round to her teacher, she asked his opinion; he said that she sung delightfully, and played charmingly. Her Royal Highness took no further notice of the matter at that moment; but, when the sycophantish preceptor called on the following day, one of the household was desired to pay him,

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and at the same time to tell him, that her Royal Highness could not expect to profit by the instructions of a person who was mean enough to flatter her against his reason, and who had not candour enough to tell her when she was wrong, but suffer her to expose herself.

Her chief delight was, however, in the poetry and classical writers of our language. An admirable choice of prose writers was made for her library by the Bishop of Exeter, and an elegant English edition of Blackstone's Commentaries on the Law of England was dedicated to her by the permission of her august parent. She always spoke of the Poems of Ossian in enthusiastic terms, and often expressed a wish to visit the country, and to tread the heaths and mountains where Fingal and his warriors fought, and where "the last sound of the voice of Cona was heard." Pope's Essay on Man she could almost repeat from memory; and it was in the frequent discussions which she maintained on the merits of that exquisite poem, that the innate powers of her mind unfolded themselves, and exhibited that energy of understanding, and that depth of comprehension, which so particularly distinguished her in her riper years.

Nature had been kind to her in indulging her with tastes which are seldom united; as, in addition to her talent for music, she had a fine perception of the picturesque in nature, and a por-

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tion of her earliest hours, and, subsequently, of those happier ones, which she spent in the society of her husband, was appropriated to drawing.

She spoke French, German, Italian, and Spanish, with considerable fluency; and the correctness of her ear enabled her to catch the correct pronunciation of the words, and the inflexions, or the recitative, as it may be termed, of each language, with a precision which rarely falls to the lot of any individual who acquires the knowledge of a language in any other country than that to which it naturally belongs.

It is well known, that in all her studies, the Princess had a particular eye to that station to which she knew she was born. The pages of history were most carefully perused, and she extracted the great and virtuous deeds of every illustrious female who had signalized herself in the annals of civilized nations. With the private and public character of every queen of England, she was intimately acquainted; that of Elizabeth appeared to be her favourite study, and she seemed to have analyzed it with an uncommon degree of acuteness. On being once asked how she would have acted in the case of Elizabeth and the earl of Essex, she answered, "I should, perhaps, have acted like Elizabeth, I should have forgotten the queen and acted like the woman."

Whilst her studies were thus pursued, the most scrupulous attention was paid to her health, and a temporary residence by the sea-side was

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recommended as likely to prove highly beneficial to her. The mansion at Bognor, belonging to Mr. Wilson, was taken for a certain number of years, and thither her Royal Highness repaired with her establishment. She had not resided there above a fortnight, when some fears were expressed of the dangerous consequences which might result to her Royal Highness from the vicinity of her mansion to the depôt for soldiers afflicted with the ophthalmia, and a commission was appointed to investigate the possibility of persons residing in the neighbourhood being afflicted with the disease. Not one case of that nature had ever occurred; and a report was made by the physicians, that the contagion did not extend to persons, not coming into immediate contact with the infected, or who did not sleep upon the same pillow. Without entering at this time into the truth of that report, it must, however, be admitted that, considering the extensive range of our coasts, a more suitable place might have been selected for the temporary residence of the heiress presumptive to the throne, than one in the heart of which was situated a depôt for invalids afflicted with a most contagious and excruciating disease. Warwick-House at Worthing had been for some short time the residence of the Princess Charlotte; but, for private reasons, which it were here unnecessary to state, that house was relinquished, and Bognor was fixed upon as the future summer residence of her Royal Highness. It

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was, however, in this retreat that she may be said to have enjoyed a positive degree of happiness, compared with that which she experienced when subject more particularly to the forms and etiquette of a residence in the metropolis. It was here that the native hilarity of her disposition burst forth; it was here that she felt herself unfettered from the tiresome ceremonies attendant on her elevated rank; and her eye beamed with sparkling lustre as she threw its glances over that ocean on which the bulwarks of her nation rode, bearing the thunder of their vengeance on her country's foes, and triumphantly defending her shores from the insatiable grasp of a tyrant's power. The condescension of her manners, the affability of her conversation, the ease and freedom with which she received and returned the visits of the neighbouring gentry, the ready access to her presence on all occasions, when suffering indigence or sudden misfortune had a claim upon her bounty, endeared her to all ranks of people, and laid the basis to that high esteem and veneration for her virtues, which exists in that part of the country to the present hour.

Dressed like the simple lady, without the garnish of exterior ornament, it was highly pleasing to see her tripping down to Richardson's the baker's, about the time when she knew his buns were ready; and, entering the shop, would sit and partake of them, and talk to the worthy baker about his business, as if she took an active

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interest in his concerns. Then, accompanied by Lady De Clifford, she would mount her car, drawn by her beautiful grey poneys, and, full of youthful mischief, she would drive into a field belonging to Sir Thomas Troubridge, which happened to be very uneven, and full of knolls and ruts, over which she would drive with uncommon speed, to the great annoyance of her companion, who made many a wry face at the sudden jolts which she received, and uttered many a shriek at the danger to which she was exposed; to all of which, and to her ardent expostulations, her Royal Highness exclaimed, "Nothing like exercise, my lady; nothing like exercise."

The Princess took particular pleasure in strolling on the beach, and collecting a species of sea weed which bears a hard black berry, of which she formed some very beautiful necklaces. In one of her rambles, about two miles eastward of Bognor, her attention was excited by some pieces of wood apparently decayed, on which a kind of metal, bright as gold was thickly incrusted, and formed into configurations similar to the metallic ores in their crude state. On searching farther, a stratum of this apparently natural phenomenon * was discovered in one of the banks,

* In the year 1810, I visited this spot, and obtained some very beautiful specimens of this incrustation; but I think the opinion must be entertained that it is not a natural production, but originates from the wreck of a copper-bottomed vessel, the metal of which, by being acted upon by some acid, has assumed those

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and two labourers were procured, who, in a short time, obtained some beautiful specimens, which her Royal Highness carried home with her. The heart of the Princess was not of that stamp to allow two labourers to work for her unrewarded, and she ordered that two guineas should be given to them. From some particular circumstances, the mystery of which would not require a Delphic oracle to solve, this bounty never reached the labourers; and so prone is human nature, especially of the lowest class, to attach a stigma to those of an elevated station, that her Royal Highness was immediately denounced as mean and pitiful, and unworthy of the name of a princess. It happened about three weeks afterwards, that the wife of one of these labourers was brought-to-bed, which, on coming to the knowledge of the Princess Charlotte, she directed that a necessary supply of linen and other articles should be immediately conveyed to the woman; the bearer of this bounty had no sooner delivered the royal gift, than the good woman exclaimed, "Aye, aye! now let people say what they will—I will maintain that she is a princess—and God bless her for ever." "And what reason," asked the messenger, "have the people to say, that her Royal Highness is not a

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forms which are so beautifully depicted on the wood. On being exposed to heat in a crucible, not a particle of metal is discernible, but the whole mass dissolves into a blackish substance, which when cold, falls into a very fine and almost impalpable powder.

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Princess?" "Why, they say," answered the woman, "that it was mean and scandalous in her, when my husband and Tom Farlingham *digged* those queer things for her Royal Highness out of the bank by the sea-side, that she did not give them as much as a sup of beer, though they sweated manfully for her." "The accusation is false," said the messenger, "for to my positive knowledge, her Royal Highness ordered two guineas to be given to your husband and his companion; and were they not given?" "Not one farthing," answered the woman. The messenger left the cottage, and the circumstance was fully developed to her Royal Highness, who set an immediate investigation on foot; the culprit, who had retained the two guineas for his own use, was discovered, and immediately dismissed the royal service. The vane of public opinion changes with the accidents of the day; and the individual, on whom in the morning every opprobrious epithet has been hurled, may, before the evening sets in, be extolled as one of the brightest patterns of moral excellence and purity.

Another beautiful trait in the character of this accomplished and truly virtuous female was exhibited in the case of an officer, of a long standing in the army, who was arrested at Bognor for a small sum; and being unable, at a distance from his friends, to procure sufficient bail, was on the point of being taken away from his family to Arundel jail. The circumstance came to the knowledge of the Princess, who, in the moment

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of a high and generous feeling, exclaimed, "I'll be his bail!" then suddenly recollecting herself, she inquired the amount of the debt, which being told her, "There," said she, "take this to him; it is hard that he who has exposed his life in the field of battle, should ever experience the rigours of a prison *."

Of the opinion which the Princess Charlotte entertained of the preceptress which had been selected for her, the following letter will convey a sufficient proof, and it also opens to us a beautiful trait in the character of her Royal Highness. It was written to the Countess of Albemarle, the daughter of Lady De Clifford, and the interest of this letter is particularly enhanced by a lamentable event, the detail of which would be here prematurely introduced.

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* With just feelings of pride I may declare, that I had once the honour of experiencing the urbanity and condescension of this illustrious female. I one evening accompanied Mr. Gray, her house-steward, from Worthing to Bognor, and the wind becoming adverse, we were detained on the water until two o'clock in the morning. On our arrival at Bognor, the hotel was shut, and no bed was to be procured there for the night. Mr. Gray, therefore, took me to the Princess Charlotte's, where the most excellent accommodation was provided for me. On the following morning, whilst Mr. Gray was shewing me the beautiful stud of grey poneys, the Princess Charlotte came suddenly upon us from a garden-door. We retired immediately; but in the most affable manner, she accosted Mr. Gray, "This is a friend of yours, I suppose, Mr. Gray?" "It is, your Royal Highness." "Then," replied the Princess, "do not let me disturb you in shewing him any thing he may wish to see."

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MY EVER DEAR LADY A———:

I most heartily thank you for your very kind letter, which I hasten to answer. But I must not forget that this letter must be a letter of congratulation, yes, of congratulation the most sincere; I love you, and therefore there is no wish that I do not form for your happiness in this world. May you have as few cares and vexations as may fall to the lot of man; and may you long be spared, and may you long enjoy the blessing of all others the most precious—your dear mother—who is not more precious to you than to me. But there is a trifle which accompanies this, which I hope you will like; and if it sometimes reminds you of me, it will be a great source of pleasure to me. I shall be most happy to see you, for it is long since I have had that pleasure.

Adieu, my dear Lady A———, and believe me ever

Your affectionate and sincere friend,

(Signed) CHARLOTTE.

During her residence at Bognor, the jubilee in honour of his Majesty was celebrated; and Mrs. Wilson, in commemoration of that event, established a school for the education of poor children. Of this school her Royal Highness became the patroness; and under her auspices, and the benevolent exertions of the foundress, aided by the voluntary subscriptions of the inhabitants and visitors, the jubilee school flourished. The promoters were at length encouraged to erect a new school-house. The plan for this new school was only a very short time ago presented to the Princess for her approbation, and a very handsome sum was immediately subscribed by her Royal Highness, towards defraying the expense of the building. The Earl of Arran, a resident at

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Bognor, and one of the earliest friends of her Royal Highness, laid the first stone, under the direction of the Princess, on which occasion a public breakfast was given by his lordship.

This may be quoted as one of the many instances of the manner in which this excellent Princess went continually about doing good; and thus has the Bognor jubilee school, and many other excellent institutions, lost a munificent benefactress, by that lamentable event, which has at one stroke, crushed a nation's hopes.

It will now be necessary to enter into a further detail of the unfortunate dissensions between the august parents of the Princess Charlotte, and which had such a decided influence on the future happiness of her life.

The Princess of Wales had from her retirement in the summer of 1796, withdrawn to her solitary residence at Montague-House, Blackheath, and for nearly ten years she seemed totally lost in oblivion and obscurity. The people knew of the existence of the personage to all appearances destined to be their future queen, but of her actions, or her mode of life, little had transpired to attract the general attention. That the separation of the royal pair had arisen from private dislike, or other personal motives, and not from the commission of any criminal act which could be imputable to the Princess, was evident from the visits which his Majesty made to Blackheath, where he often passed a whole day in the society of his

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daughter-in-law and his dearly-beloved grandchild. Some severe misunderstandings had, however, occurred between his Majesty and the Prince on account of these visits; but as no circumstance had taken place to warrant his Majesty in withdrawing his countenance from the Princess, the Prince yielded in filial obedience to the wishes of his parent, and forbore to express his chagrin upon the occasion. His Majesty's health was at this time in a very delicate state, and every thing was cautiously avoided which could excite the least irritation in his mind, or wound those feelings, which, on certain points, were known to be of a most acute nature.

It requires not a profound knowledge of the world, nor an extensive acquaintance with the subtle artifices and intrigues which are practised to gain a desired end, to consider the case as amounting to almost a mathematical demonstration, that the actions of an individual of the exalted rank of the Princess of Wales, and placed as she was under circumstances of the most singular and unexampled nature, should not be the object on which malice would spit its venom, or malignity direct its poisoned shafts; especially too as it was considered that, if the arrow hit the mark, the intelligence would be received in every quarter with no common feelings of interest, and in some with satisfaction. Let not, however, the inference thence be drawn, that an illustrious individual, either strung the

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bow, or directed the hand which guided the arrow; the contrary must be affirmed in the strictest sense of truth and justice; and the caution, the circumspection, and the doubt, with which he received the report tending to vilify the character of the Princess, are in themselves all sufficient vouchers for the falsehood of the insinuation, that his Royal Highness himself was the author or the instigator of them.

With the character and conduct of that illustrious female was connected the object of his dearest interests. Whatever personal dislike or animosity might exist between them, it was not thence a natural deduction, that it was unfit or improper that the early education of his daughter, on whom all the hopes of the nation were fixed, should not be intrusted to the peculiar care of her mother. But where is the parent, who, looking with a jealous and scrutinising eye on every impression which can be stamped on the mind or disposition of his child, at that critical age, when it becomes indelible, will not remove it from those scenes, from the continual view of which an early moral contamination is likely to ensue? and where is the parent, tremblingly alive to the future welfare of his child, who will not place an insuperable obstacle in its way against all further intercourse with those individuals, (let them stand in whatever relation they may), who by their conduct have rendered themselves amenable to those afflicting consequences, resulting from a

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wanton departure from the established rules of virtue and decorum?

It must, however, be admitted, on the grounds of liberality and justice, that no person is authorized, under any plea, nor under any circumstances whatever, to anticipate the guilt of another, and to direct his actions in such a manner, as if that guilt were actually established. The most profound, the most delicate investigation is necessary; not only the actions themselves, but the *motive* of those actions, (that infallible criterion of the human character,) should be traced through all their windings, through the most remote ramifications, until the root be gained; nor should the verdict of guilt be pronounced until the evidence of either side has been confronted, and all party spirit, all private animosity, been abandoned in the judgment.

In November of the year 1802, the Princess Charlotte being then nearly seven years old, the Princess of Wales, under circumstances of the most eccentric and extraordinary kind, adopted a child of very obscure parents, of the name of Austin, and it was suckled and brought up under her own immediate eye. She appeared to lavish on it the kindness and caresses of a mother, and it was in all respects treated as a royal offspring. Of the propriety of this step, not a dissenting opinion can be entertained. The Princess had constantly an object before her, worthy of being nourished in her heart's core, on whom she could,

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with all the rapture of a mother's feelings, have lavished her utmost fondness, and experienced in return for that fondness, all the sweet endearments, all the nameless joys, of filial love. The child,—her own, her only offspring, who was flourishing under her eye towards maturity, and to whom Heaven in its bounty had given all that could charm, or please, or captivate the parent's heart, was now to behold the affections of her mother divided, and those kisses profusely lavished on another, which ought to have been bestowed upon herself. But this is not the least important view of the matter. Was it consistent with the dignity of her daughter, born to ascend the throne of the most mighty and civilized nation of the world, that she should be made the playmate, the companion of the son of a common porter? Were her ears to be constantly assailed with the high encomiums of his personal qualities? were her eyes to behold a sword placed in his hands, wherewith this champion, this redresser of her mother's wrongs, was to defend her from her enemies, amongst whom two illustrious personages were mentioned, whom a sense of common propriety, whatever her private sentiments might have been, should have restrained her from naming?

The dearest interests of the nation became thus involved, and the most unpleasant reports still continuing to reach the ear of the Prince of Wales, he considered himself imperiously called upon to take those decisive measures, by which

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their validity could be either confirmed or refuted. In one of the reports which was conveyed to his Royal Highness, the Duke of Kent was mentioned, as being privy to some of the transactions which had taken place at Blackheath, and an interview immediately took place between their Royal Highnesses on the subject. It was in the bed-room of the Prince of Wales where this interview took place, and which may be considered as the groundwork of the ulterior proceedings which were adopted, and which had so decisive an influence on the future prospects of the Princess Charlotte.

On being closeted with the Duke of Kent, the Prince immediately dismissed his attendants, and informed his royal brother, that circumstances had come to his knowledge, with respect to a transaction with the Princess of Wales, in which he found that the Duke had been concerned; and that if he had not placed the most implicit reliance on the attachment of the Duke to himself, and he added, to the Duke's well-known uprightness of character and principle, he should certainly have felt himself in no small degree offended in having learnt the facts alluded to from *others*, and not in the first instance from the *Duke himself*, which he conceived himself every way entitled to expect, and more especially from that footing of confidence on which the royal brothers had always stood with each other. Being, however, fully satisfied in his own mind that the explanation would justify him in the opinion which

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he always entertained of his brother, and that he had been actuated by the most honourable motives in observing a silence towards *himself* on this, to him, most interesting subject. He requested the Duke to give him a distinct statement of the transaction, as far as he was himself concerned; and offering his hand to the Duke at the same time, assured him that he did not feel the slightest displeasure towards him, but expected the most candid statement from him of every particular, connected with the purport of his visit.

It appeared from the narrative of the Duke, that the Princess of Wales had at one period lived on a footing of the greatest intimacy with Sir Sydney Smith, and Sir John and Lady Douglas. That the Princess, having been cautioned by an anonymous letter, of the character of Lady Douglas, and of the liberties which she had allowed herself to take with the name of the Princess, her Royal Highness saw herself obliged to refuse the visits of Lady Douglas; and she directed Miss Vernon to write a note to that lady, specifically telling her, that her visits would be dispensed with. That, in consequence of this note, an application was made in the joint names of Sir Sydney Smith, Sir John and Lady Douglas, for an explanation; as it was considered a marked affront on them collectively; which explanation her Royal Highness was determined not to grant; and, in order to avoid any unpleasant discussion on the subject, the mediation of the Duke of Kent was solicited.

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It appears, that in this mediation, the Duke acted in a manner highly creditable to his honor, and with a proper sense of that delicacy which was due to all the parties, he obtained a qualified consent from them, that if *unmolested*, they would remain quiet. The Duke, however, implicitly avows, that had the Princess informed him of the circumstances which were subsequently given on the information of Sir John and Lady Douglas, he would have abstained from all interference in the business.

There is not a more infallible method of exciting the resentment, and consequently the active vengeance of a female, than to shew her a personal affront, and especially when that affront removes her from a high and distinguished circle in which she had lately moved. The most alarming reports were now made touching the most vital interests of the state, and actually involving the right of the Princess Charlotte to the throne. Amongst the other important facts then made public, was one, that her Royal Highness had been pregnant four years previously to the inquiry; that she was then delivered of a male child, which child had ever since that period been brought up by her Royal Highness, and under her immediate inspection.

A commission was therefore issued, under the royal sign manual, appointing Lord Erskine, Chancellor; Lord Grenville, First Lord of the Treasury; Lord Spencer, Secretary of State; and

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Lord Ellenborough, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, the royal commissioners to investigate the truth of the allegations, to examine witnesses, and to report the result of that examination.

At this period began the restrictions which were placed between the intercourse of the Princess of Wales and her daughter; and it was ordered that the visit should be only once a week, and even then, under certain conditions which could not but prove highly mortifying both to the mother and the daughter. It is not, however, generally known, that through the medium of a trusty friend, little suspected by the argus who was appointed to watch over the motions of the Princess Charlotte, that a regular correspondence was kept up, and her Royal Highness was acquainted with every particular of the investigation, which was then prosecuting into the conduct of her august mother. Through this channel, her Royal Highness was made acquainted with the hostile dispositions of a particular branch of the royal family towards her mother; and it was the means of putting her upon her guard in many instances, in which she would otherwise have committed herself. Opinions, formed on assumed grounds, were often advanced in her presence, the admission of which, on her part, would have been immediately converted into an instrument of indirect evidence against her mother, or the clue would have been discovered by which the mys

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tery of certain points could have been unravelled. Questions, wrapped in all the artful obliquity of doubt, were often put to her, from her answers to which, it was hoped, some important information could be obtained; but her Royal Highness saw through the deep-laid stratagem, and in her heart she despised the character of the individual, who could meanly take advantage of the simplicity of youth, to favour her own dark and sinister views.

The person, through whose hands the correspondence passed, is still living; and, therefore, for the most obvious reasons, her name must not be mentioned. She was an obscure individual, and a regular pensioner upon the bounty of the Princess Charlotte. Her pittance was paid her weekly, and always by the hands of the Princess Charlotte herself; and as her Royal Highness had many of these Pensioners, the stratagem succeeded; and not the slightest vestige of the correspondence was ever discovered.

The education of the Princess Charlotte, in a political sense, was now prosecuted with considerable assiduity. Her mind had received that tone and vigour which enabled it to embrace the deep and important points connected with the polity of nations; and too much applause cannot be bestowed upon her august father, for constantly instilling into her mind those true constitutional principles, which seated her family on the British throne.

The following speech of his Royal Highness on

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the health of his daughter being drunk at the Pavilion, at Brighton, deserves to be recorded as a proof, that the above eulogium most deservedly belongs to him. In returning thanks for that mark of respect to the object of his pride and tenderness the Prince, in a short but eloquent address, said, " That he had made it his first care to instil into the mind and heart of his daughter, the knowledge and love of the true principles of the British Constitution; and he had pointed out to her young understanding, as a model for study, the political conduct of his most revered and lamented friend, Mr. Fox, who had asserted and maintained with such transcendent force, the just principles upon which the government under this excellent constitution ought to be administered for the true and solid dignity of the Crown, and the real security, freedom, and happiness of the people. He had the most heartfelt enjoyment in knowing, that, even in her present early years, his daughter had a just conception of the value of the precepts which had been implanted in her breast; and that he could say with confidence, that she would fulfil all the duties which she might be called upon to discharge, when his bones were laid in the grave."

When his Royal Highness reverts to the last passage of this speech, how forcibly must the impression strike upon him of the precarious tenure of our earthly hopes. The being, whom he was then eulogizing was in the full bloom of beauty

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and of youth; her bright blue eye was then sparkling with anticipation of the pleasures of a future life, and she was in the full enjoyment of that unsullied peace which a strict attention to the exercise of our moral and religious duties will constantly afford. But a dreadful page was written in the book of Fate—the awful hand of the Almighty had inscribed —LET IT BE; the time was come, and the dreadful *fiat* was fulfilled.

Whilst the Princess Charlotte was pursuing her studies at Windsor, the inquiry into the charges brought against her mother was prosecuted with all the exterior forms of a trial, as counsel on the part of her Royal Highness was permitted to attend. The late Mr. Perceval, who, from the residence of his family at Blackheath, had long been honoured by an intimate and friendly intercourse with her Royal Highness, was selected by her for this delicate commission; and it is reported that he executed it with all that zeal and energy which a man of warm feelings must be supposed to exercise on an occasion so peculiarly interesting. When this very delicate commission had sitten for about two months, it was dissolved, after previously drawing up a report, which embraced the main features of the inquiry; this report fully exonerated the Princess from the foul and infamous charge of having an illegitimate child, but still attached great levity and indecorum to her conduct. It was immediately laid before the King, who directed it should

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be destroyed, and every trace of the proceedings on the whole affair buried in oblivion; his Majesty, however, gave a gentle reproof to her Royal Highness, when he says, "he cannot forbear to express, on the conclusion of this business, his desire and expectation, that such a conduct may in future be observed by the Princess, as may fully justify those marks of paternal regard and affection which the King always wishes to shew to every part of his royal family.

In this situation, his Majesty is advised, that it is no longer necessary for him to decline receiving the Princess into his royal presence.

This pleasing intelligence was immediately communicated to the Princess Charlotte, who received it with every demonstration of joy; the tears streamed from her eyes—she fell upon her knees, and with pious fervour poured out the effusions of her grateful heart to that Being, to whom she always looked as the giver of every earthly good, and from whom in her afflictions she sought for consolation, and ever found it. "God is my shield and my protector," she cried, "the cry of the innocent reacheth to his throne, and passeth not away like the wind; but the voice of the guilty is an abomination to him, and he turneth away his ear from the supplications of the perjured."—If there be a moment in which a human being can command respect, it is in that of humiliation before the throne of Heaven, in gratitude for its singular mercy and goodness, in averting the

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horrors of an overwhelming calamity; and never were the pure and sublime principles of religion more practically displayed, than in the actions of this truly Christian Princess. But God chasteneth those whom he loves, and that thou wert chastened, thou now sainted spirit, during thy fleeting sojourn on earth—the frequent tears on thy cheeks —and the convulsive sighs from thy bosom will testify. Thou wert tried, deeply tried in the school of affliction—but thy sufferings are at an end—and thou hast now received a crown of glory which fadeth not away!

Transitory indeed was the joy of the Princess Charlotte; it came upon her, like the moonbeam to the mariner breaking through the cloud of the tempest, soon to vanish for ever; the darkness of her sorrow returned, on which hereafter no sun of happiness was to shine.

The Princess of Wales, immediately on the receipt of the communication of his Majesty, addressed to him the following letter:—

Montague-House, Jan. 29, 1807.

SIRE,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of the paper which, by your Majesty's direction, was yesterday transmitted to me by the Lord Chancellor, and to express the unfeigned happiness which I have derived from one part of it; I mean that, which informs me that your Majesty's confidential servants have at length thought proper to communicate to your Majesty their advice, that it is no longer necessary for your Majesty to decline receiving me into your royal presence; and I, therefore, humbly hope, that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to receive with favour the com-

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munication of my intention to avail myself, with your Majesty's permission, of that advice, for the purpose of waiting upon your Majesty on Monday next, if that day should not be inconvenient; when I hope again to have the happiness of throwing myself, in filial duty and affection, at your Majesty's feet. Your Majesty will easily conceive, that I reluctantly name so distant a day as Monday, but I do not feel myself sufficiently recovered from the measles, to venture upon so long a drive at an earlier day. Feeling, however, very anxious to receive again, as soon as possible, this blessing, of which I have been so long deprived, if that day should happen to be in any degree inconvenient, I humbly entreat and implore your Majesty's most gracious and paternal goodness to name some other day, as early as possible, for that purpose.

I am, &c.

(Signed) C. P.

To the King.

His Majesty lost not a moment in answering this letter, which was couched in the following terms:—

Windsor Castle, January 29, 1807.

The King has this moment received the Princess of Wales's letter in which she intimates her intention of coming to Windsor on Monday next; and his Majesty, not wishing to put the Princess to the inconvenience of coming to this place so immediately after her illness, hastens to acquaint her, that he shall prefer to receive her in London upon a day subsequent to the ensuing week, which will also better suit his Majesty, and of which he will not fail to apprize the Princess.

(Signed) GEORGE R.

To the Princess of Wales.

The hopes and expectations of the Princess Charlotte were in some degree damped by the general tenour of his Majesty's letter, as it was her fondest wish that the restoration of her

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mother to the circle of the royal family might take place at Windsor, where she could be an eye-witness of the scene, and enjoy the pleasure of it with all the enthusiastic warmth of her generous nature. What, then, must have been her feelings, when the following letter was written by his Majesty to her mother:—

Windsor Castle, February 10, 1807.

As the Princess of Wales may have been led to expect, from the King's letter to her, that he would fix an early day for seeing her, his Majesty thinks it right to acquaint her, that the Prince of Wales, upon receiving the several documents, which the King directed his cabinet to transmit to him, made a formal communication to him of his intention to put them into the hands of his lawyers; accompanied by a request, that his Majesty would suspend any farther steps in the business, until the Prince of Wales should be enabled to submit to him the statement which he proposed to make. The King, therefore, considers it incumbent upon him to defer naming a day to the Princess of Wales, until the further result of the Prince's intention shall have been made known to him.

(Signed) GEORGE R.

To the Princess of Wales.

On the receipt of this letter the Princess of Wales wrote to his Majesty, remonstrating in strong terms against this most extraordinary and unaccountable interposition of the Prince of Wales, at such a time, and under such circumstances; and she trusted his Majesty would recal his determination not to see her till the Prince's answer respecting her vindication was received. In the letter, besides other topics which were dwelt

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upon to shew the hardness of her case, she introduced copies of the letter of the Prince to her, first stating the conditions on which they were to live separate, and of her answer to the proposal. Of the reproof respecting her conduct, which his Majesty, by the advice of his confidential servants, had transmitted to her, she complained not so much for what it did, as for what it did not, contain, since there was no particular mention of what was the cause and object of censure.

Soon after this letter was sent, the Grenville administration went out of office, and they were succeeded by the friends of the Princess. It was, therefore, natural to suppose, that the object of her various petitions would be granted. Accordingly they had been but a very short time in power, when, by a Minute of Council, dated April 22, 1807, they humbly submitted to his Majesty, that it was essentially necessary, in justice to her Royal Highness, and for the honour and interests of his Majesty's illustrious family, that her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales should be admitted with as little delay as possible into his Majesty's presence; and that she should be received in a manner due to her rank and station in his Majesty's court and family.

Notwithstanding this advice, it does not appear that the Princess of Wales was ever on the same footing, either at court or in the royal family, as she had previously been, while her intercourse with the Princess Charlotte was subjected to

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additional restraint. Why her only child, whose sex and years in a peculiar manner called for the utmost exertions of maternal tenderness, should be denied to her, is a mystery, the solution of which is now beyond our hopes. Mr. Perceval, a very few months before his death, publicly declared, in his place in the House of Commons, that he knew of nothing against the character of the Consort of the Prince Regent; and yet she was debarred from the society of the only being who could have solaced her under her afflictions.

On the acquittal of her Royal Highness from those heavy and serious charges which had been brought against her, addresses of congratulation were poured in from all parts of the country; and the answer which she gave to the address of the City of London deserves particular notice, as it refers to that line of education in regard to politics, which she would have adopted for the Princess Charlotte.

"I thank you," she said, "for your loyal and affectionate address: it is to me the greatest consolation to learn, that during so many years of unmerited persecution, notwithstanding the active and persevering dissemination of the most deliberate calumnies against me, the kind and favourable sentiments, with which they did me the honor to approach me on my arrival in this country, have undergone neither diminution nor change in the hearts of the citizens of London. The sense of indignation and abhorrence you

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express against the foul and detestable conspiracy which, by perjured and suborned traducers, has been carried on against my life and honour, is worthy of you, and most gratifying to me. It must be duly appreciated by every branch of that illustrious House, with which I am so closely connected by blood and marriage, the personal welfare of every one of whom must have been affected by the success of such atrocious machinations. The consciousness of my innocence has supported me through my long, severe, and unmerited trials; your approbation of my conduct under them is a reward for all my sufferings. I shall not lose any opportunity I may be permitted to enjoy of encouraging the talents and virtues of my dear daughter, the Princess Charlotte; and I shall impress upon her mind my full sense of the obligation conferred upon me by the spontaneous act of your justice and generosity. She will therein clearly perceive the value of that Constitution, which, in the natural course of events, it will be her high destiny to preside over, and her sacred duty to maintain, which allows no one to sink under oppression; and she will ever be bound to the City of London, in ties proportioned to the strength of that filial attachment I have had the happiness uniformly to experience from her. Be assured, that the cordial and convincing proof you have thus given of your solicitude for my prosperity and happiness will be cherished in grateful remembrance by me to the latest moment of my

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life; and the distinguished proceeding, adopted by the first city in this great empire, will be considered by posterity as a proud memorial of my vindicated honour."

It must be allowed that the cloven foot of party spirit was visible in these addresses; nevertheless, it must at the same time be granted, that there, perhaps, never was a subject on which the nation was so unanimous. Events of a great national importance immediately succeeding to this inquiry, the public attention was directed into a different channel, and before the conclusion of the year, the Princess of Wales was scarcely ever mentioned.

Encircled with the pomp and etiquette of royalty, the Princess Charlotte passed a recluse and monotonous life. The same dull round of ceremony, the same abstraction from those innocent and necessary pleasures, which give a zest to life, were punctually observed; and she looked abroad, round the wide circle of fellow-creatures, and could not fix upon one, in whose bosom she could pour out her sorrows with confidence, or meet a return of affection. To Him, then, her Father in heaven, were her morning and evening orisons offered; in the fulfilment of his commandments she found her happiness; and the tear on her own eye was exhaled, when, tendering the gift of charity, she made the tears of others cease to flow. But man is not an isolated creature; he is a link of one great and mighty chain, and each must

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necessarily have a dependence upon the other: in society, he is like the flower blown in its native bed; in solitude, he is like the blasted shrub of the desert—neither giving nor receiving support, the energies of his nature fail him—he droops, degenerates, and dies.

Bereft of the society of her mother, the affections of the Princess Charlotte received a deep and painful wound. The circumstances also which led to the severe restrictions imposed upon their intercourse, tended in no small degree to aggravate the smart; and so far from any prospect presenting itself of a mitigation of the evil, every day seemed to bring a fresh assurance, that some heavier restrictions would be put in force.

That these suspicions were well founded, was too positively confirmed in a very short time. On the 4th October, 1812, the Princess of Wales went to Windsor with an intention of paying the Princess Charlotte a visit. Her Royal Highness drove to Augusta Lodge, where she supposed the Princess to be, but she was not permitted to see her daughter. In consequence of this denial, she requested an audience of the Queen, which immediately took place; but the result was by no means satisfactory to her Royal Highness, who expressed her determination, upon legal advice, to bring the matter of her situation to an immediate question, by an application to parliament.

The country had been long aware that objections

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were stated to the frequency and length of the visits which the Princess of Wales paid her daughter at Windsor; and, in general, to the closeness of the intercourse which subsisted between them. A law officer, of the highest distinction, was the first person commissioned to be the bearer of a message to this effect; who, on his approach to the fair object of his embassy, was received with such a flow of eloquence, which he had never before experienced in any of his official capacities, that his lordship chose to retire without disclosing the object of his visit. This difficult task then devolved on the Earl of Liverpool, who executed it with all the coolness and the adroitness of the courtier and the statesman. The denial of access to the Princess Charlotte became a new substantive cause of complaint on the part of the Princess of Wales, and was likely to bring again before the public notice, the whole of the proceedings of the Inquiry of 1806, from which the present treatment of her Royal Highness appeared to emanate.

At the close of the year 1812, and the beginning of 1813, the Princess Charlotte was afflicted with an indisposition, which was in a great degree aggravated by the poignant feelings which preyed upon her mind, in regard to the unpleasant differences between her royal parents. It was also well known, that some strong disagreement prevailed at Windsor, and the frequent consultations which were held between a great personage and

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the Lord Chancellor, evidently proved, that the subject on the tapis was not of trifling import. Various surmises were afloat as to the object of these consultations, and the illness of the King at that time was deemed the most ostensible cause. It is, however, beyond a doubt, that these deliberations had no reference whatever to the malady of the King, but were entirely confined to the affairs of the Princess Charlotte. It was, perhaps, highly politic to throw as thick a veil as possible over the momentous affairs then in agitation at Windsor; as, from the perturbed state of the public mind in regard to the severe restrictions which had been placed upon all intercourse between the Princess and her daughter, the most unpleasant consequences might have ensued from an open promulgation of the measures which were on the eve of being adopted.

That the matters, then under deliberation, were of the most urgent nature, may be gathered from the few authentic documents which are extant of that most important period of the life of the Princess Charlotte; for it appears that, on the 10th of January, 1813, the Princess sent a communication from Windsor to the Prince Regent by one of her own footmen, and the Queen dispatched another messenger at the same time. On the same evening the Prince Regent sent to the Lord Chancellor, commanding his lordship's attendance early on the following morning. His lordship was accordingly at Carlton House, by 10 o'clock, and set off with his Royal Highness for Windsor at 11.

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The cause of this apparently hasty measure was subsequently discovered to relate to a change in the establishment of the Princess Charlotte, on account of the resignation of Lady de Clifford of the office of governess to her Royal Highness, and which inflicted an additional pang upon her already wounded feelings. On the resignation of Lady de Clifford being made known to the Princess Charlotte, her Royal Highness expressed an opinion, that she was of an age to do without any governess; and desired that the future appointment about her person might be in the capacity of a lady of the bedchamber, and not in that of a governess. This desire she made known to the Queen, who referred her to the Prince Regent. His Royal Highness immediately sent for the Lord Chancellor; and, on their arrival at Windsor, there was a meeting, at which the Queen, the Princess Charlotte, the Prince Regent, and the Lord Chancellor attended. The Prince Regent, adverting to the wish of the Princess Charlotte to have no governess after Lady de Clifford, but simply a lady of the bedchamber, declared his opinion and his pleasure to be, that she should still have a governess. The Queen expressed her sentiments to the same effect, and the Lord Chancellor wholly coincided in them. The Prince Regent being resolute, the Princess Charlotte at last submitted, and the Duchess Dowager of Leeds was appointed governess.

Whilst these important matters were adjusting

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at Windsor, a letter from the Princess of Wales to the Prince Regent appeared, touching the prohibition of her visits to her daughter, which set the advocates of both parties immediately in commotion. It is one of the most important documents which ever appeared in the history of our royal family, and cannot fail to be perused with peculiar interest by those who wish to become acquainted with the leading features of the life of the illustrious Princess Charlotte of Wales. It is dated Montague-House, January 14, 1813.

Letter of the Princess of Wales to the Prince Regent.

" SIR,

" It is with great reluctance that I presume to obtrude myself upon your Royal Highness, and to solicit your attention to matters which may, at first, appear rather of a personal than a public nature. If I could think them so—if they related merely to myself, I should abstain from a proceeding which might give uneasiness, or interrupt the more weighty occupations of your Royal Highness's time; I should continue, in silence and retirement, to lead the life which has been prescribed to me, and console myself for the loss of that society, and those domestic comforts, to which I have so long been a stranger, by the reflection that it has been deemed proper I should be afflicted without any fault of my own—and that your Royal Highness knows it.

" But, Sir, there are considerations of a higher nature than any regard to my own happiness, which render this address a duty both to myself and my daughter. May I venture to say—a duty also to my husband, and the people committed to his care? There is a point beyond which guiltless woman cannot with safety carry her forbearance. If her honour is invaded, the defence of her reputation is no longer a matter of choice; and it signifies not whether the attack be made openly, manfully, and directly—or

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by secret insinuation, and by holding such conduct towards her as countenances all the suspicions that malice can suggest. If these ought to be the feelings of every woman in England, who is conscious that she deserves no reproach, your Royal Highness has too sound a judgment, and too nice a sense of honour, not to perceive, how much more justly they belong to the mother of your daughter—the mother of her who is destined, I trust, at a very distant period, to reign over the British empire.

" It may be known to your Royal Highness, that, during the continuance of the restrictions upon your royal authority, I purposely refrained from making any representations which might then augment the painful difficulties of your exalted station. At the expiration of the restrictions I still was inclined to delay taking this step; in the hope that I might owe the redress I sought to your gracious and unsolicited condescension. I have waited, in the fond indulgence of this expectation, until, to my inexpressible mortification, I find that my unwillingness to complain has only produced fresh grounds of complaint; and I am at length compelled, either to abandon all regard for the two dearest objects which I possess on earth,—mine own honour and my beloved child,—or to throw myself at the feet of your Royal Highness, the natural protector of both.

" I presume, Sir, to represent to your Royal Highness, that the separation, which every succeeding month is making wider, of the mother and the daughter, is equally injurious to my character and to her education; I say nothing of the deep wounds which so cruel an arrangement inflicts upon my feelings, although I would fain hope that few persons will be found of a disposition to think lightly of these. To see myself cut off from one of the very few domestic enjoyments left me, certainly the only one upon which I set any value,—the society of my child,—involves me in such misery, as I well know your Royal Highness could never inflict upon me, if you were aware of its bitterness. Our intercourse has been gradually diminished. A single interview weekly seemed sufficiently hard allowance for a mother's affection; that, however, was reduced to our meeting once a fortnight; and I now learn that even this most rigorous interdiction is to be still more rigidly enforced."

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"But while I do not venture to intrude my feelings as a mother upon your Royal Highness's notice, I must be allowed to say, that in the eyes of an observing and jealous world, this separation of a daughter from her mother will only admit of one construction—a construction fatal to the mother's reputation. Your Royal Highness will also pardon me for adding, that there is no less inconsistency than injustice in this treatment. He who dares advise your Royal Highness to overlook the evidence of my innocence, and disregard the sentence of complete acquittal which it produced—or is wicked and false enough still to whisper suspicions in your ear, betrays his duty to you, Sir, to your daughter, and to your people, if he counsels you to permit a day to pass without a farther investigation of my conduct, I know that no such calumniator will venture to recommend a measure which must speedily end in his utter confusion. Then let me implore you to reflect on the situation in which I am placed; without the shadow of a charge against me—without even an accuser—after an inquiry that led to my ample vindication—yet treated as if I were still more culpable than the perjuries of my suborned traducers represented me, and held up to the world as a mother who may not enjoy the society of her only child.

"The feelings, Sir, which are natural to my unexampled situation, might justify me in the gracious judgment of your Royal Highness, had I no other motives for addressing you but such as relate to myself. But I will not disguise from your Royal Highness what I cannot for a moment conceal from myself, that the serious, and it soon may be, the irreparable injury which my daughter sustains from the plan at present pursued, has done more in overcoming my reluctance to intrude upon your Royal Highness than any sufferings of my own could accomplish; and if, for her sake, I presume to call away your Royal Highness's attention from the other cares of your exalted station, I feel confident I am not claiming it for a matter of inferior importance either to yourself or your people.

"The powers with which the constitution of these realms vests your Royal Highness, in the regulation of the royal family, I know, because I am so advised, are ample and unquestionable. My

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appeal, Sir, is made to your excellent sense and liberality of mind in the exercise of those powers; and I willingly hope that your own paternal feelings will lead you to excuse the anxiety of mine, for impelling me to represent the unhappy consequences which the present system must entail upon our beloved child.

"Is it possible, Sir, that any one can have attempted to persuade your Royal Highness, that her character will not be injured by the perpetual violence offered to her strongest affections—the studied care taken to estrange her from my society, and even to interrupt all communication between us? That her love for me, with whom, by his Majesty's wise and gracious arrangements, she passed the years of her childhood, never can be extinguished, I well know; and the knowledge of it forms the greatest blessing of my existence. But let me implore your Royal Highness to reflect how inevitably all attempts to abate this attachment, by forcibly separating us, if they succeed, must injure my child's principles—if they fail, must destroy her happiness.

"The plan of excluding my daughter from all intercourse with the world, appears to my humble judgment peculiarly unfortunate. She, who is destined to be the sovereign of this great country, enjoys none of those advantages of society which are deemed necessary for imparting a knowledge of mankind to persons who have infinitely less occasion to learn that important lesson; and it may so happen, by a chance, which I trust, is very remote, that she should be called upon to exercise the powers of the crown, with an experience of the world more confined than that of the most private individual. To the extraordinary talents with which she is blessed, and which accompany a disposition as singularly amiable, frank, and decided, I willingly trust much; but beyond a certain point the greatest natural endowments cannot struggle against the disadvantages of circumstances and situation. It is my earnest prayer, for her own sake as well as her country's, that your Royal Highness may be induced to pause before this point be reached.

"Those who have advised you, Sir, to delay so long the period of my daughter's commencing her intercourse with the world, and for that purpose to make Windsor her residence, appear not to have regarded the interruptions to her education which this arrangement

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occasions; both by the impossibility of obtaining the attendance of proper teachers, and the time unavoidably consumed in the frequent journeys to town, which she must make, unless she is to be secluded from all intercourse, even with your Royal Highness and the rest of the royal family. To the same unfortunate counsels I ascribe a circumstance, in every way so distressing both to my parental and religious feelings, that my daughter has never yet enjoyed the benefit of confirmation, although above a year older than the age at which all the other branches of the royal family have partaken of that solemnity. May I earnestly conjure you, Sir, to hear my entreaties upon this serious matter, even if you should listen to other advisers on things of less near concernment to the welfare of our child?

"The pain with which I have at length formed the resolution of addressing myself to your Royal Highness is such as I should in vain attempt to express. If I could adequately describe it, you might be enabled, Sir, to estimate the strength of the motives which have made me to submit to it. They are the most powerful feelings of affection, and the deepest impressions of duty towards your Royal Highness, my beloved child, and the country, which I devoutly hope she may be preserved to govern, and to shew by a new example the liberal affection of a free and generous people to a virtuous and constitutional monarch.

"I am, Sir, with profound respect, and an attachment which nothing can alter,

"Your Royal Highness's

"Most devoted and most affectionate

"Consort, cousin, and subject,

(Signed) "CAROLINE LOUISA."

"Montague-House, 14th Jan. 1813."

A copy of the Report of the honourable the Privy Council, having been laid before the Prince Regent, was transmitted to her Royal Highness by Viscount Sidmouth, on the evening of the day on which the above letter was sent, and Lord

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Harrowby replied without delay to his Royal Highness by letter.

The Report is as follows:—

To his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, the Members of his Majesty's most honorable Privy Council; viz., his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, &c. &c., having been summoned by command of your Royal Highness, on the 19th of February, to meet at the office of Viscount Sidmouth, Secretary of State for the Home Department, a communication was made by his Lordship to the Lords then present, in the following terms:—

My Lords,

I have it in command, from his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, to acquaint your lordships, that a copy of a letter from the Princess of Wales to the Prince Regent having appeared in a public paper, which letter refers to the proceedings that took place in an inquiry instituted by command of his Majesty, in the year 1806, and contains, among other matters, certain animadversions upon the manner in which the Prince Regent has exercised his undoubted right of regulating the conduct and education of his daughter the Princess Charlotte; and his Royal Highness having taken into his consideration the said letter so published, and adverting to the directions heretofore given by his Majesty, that the documents relating to the said inquiry should be sealed up, and deposited in the office of his Majesty's principal secretary of state, in order that his Majesty's government should possess the means of resorting to them if necessary; his Royal Highness has been pleased to direct, that the said letter of the Princess of Wales, and the whole of the said documents, together with the copies of other letters and papers, of which a schedule is annexed, should be referred to your lordships, being members of his Majesty's most honorable privy council, for your consideration; and that you

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should report to his Royal Highness your opinion, whether, under all the circumstances of the case, it be fit and proper that the intercourse between the Princess of Wales, and her daughter the Princess Charlotte, should continue to be subject to regulations and restrictions."

"Their lordships adjourned their meetings to Tuesday the 23d of February; and the intermediate days having been employed in perusing the documents referred to them, by command of your Royal Highness, they proceeded on that and the following day to the further consideration of the said documents, and have agreed to report to your Royal Highness as follows:—

"In obedience to the commands of your Royal Highness, we have taken into our most serious consideration the letter from her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales to your Royal Highness, which has appeared in the public papers, and has been referred to us by your Royal Highness; in which letter the Princess of Wales, amongst other matters, complains that the intercourse between her Royal Highness and her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, has been subjected to certain restrictions.

"We have also taken into our most serious consideration, together with the other papers referred to us by your Royal Highness, all the documents relative to the inquiry instituted in 1806, by command of his Majesty, into the truth of certain representations, respecting the conduct of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, which appear to have been pressed upon the attention of your Royal Highness, in consequence of the advice of Lord Thurlow, and upon grounds of public duty; by whom they were transmitted to his Majesty's consideration; and your Royal Highness having been graciously pleased to command us to report our opinions to your Royal Highness, whether, under all the circumstances of the case, it be fit and proper, that the intercourse between the Princess of Wales and her daughter, the Princess Charlotte, should continue to be subject to regulation and restraint:

"We beg leave humbly to report to your Royal Highness, that, after a full examination of all the documents before us, we are of opinion that, under all the circumstances of the case, it is highly fit and proper, with a view to the welfare of her Royal Highness

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the Princess Charlotte, in which are equally involved the happiness of your Royal Highness, in your parental and royal character, and the most important interests of the state,—that the intercourse between her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, should continue to be subject to regulation and restraint.

" We humbly trust that we may be permitted, without being thought to exceed the limits of the duty imposed on us, respectfully to express the just sense we entertain of the motives by which your Royal Highness has been actuated in the postponement of the confirmation of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte; as it appears, by a statement under the hand of her Majesty the Queen, that your Royal Highness has conformed in this respect to the declared will of his Majesty; who had been pleased to direct, that such ceremony should not take place till her Royal Highness should have completed her eighteenth year.

" We also humbly trust that we may be further permitted to notice some expressions in the letter of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, which may possibly be construed as implying a charge of too serious a nature to be passed over without observation. We refer to the words—' suborned traducers.' As this expression, from the manner it is introduced, may, perhaps, be liable to misconstruction (however impossible it may be to suppose that it can have been so intended) to have reference to some part of the conduct of your Royal Highness; we feel it our bounden duty not to omit this opportunity of declaring, that the documents laid before us, afford the most ample proof, that there is not the slightest foundation for such an aspersion.

(Signed)

C. Cantuar,	*Bathurst,*	*Chas. Abbot,*
Eldon,	*Liverpool,*	*N. Vansittart,*
E. Ebor,	*Mulgrave,*	*C. Bathurst,*
W. Armagh,	*Melville,*	*E. W. Grant,*
Harrowby, P. C.	*Sidmouth,*	*A. Macdonald,*
Westmoreland, C. P. S.	*J. London,*	*W. Scott,*
Buckinghamshire,	*Ellenborough,*	*J. Nichol,*

A true Copy,

Sidmouth.

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Of the respective merits of the letter of the Princess of Wales, many discordant opinions prevailed; some saw in it a desire for the early introduction of her daughter into fashionable life; and others, a mere wish that she should not be deprived of those innocent pleasures, which a more enlarged intercourse with some of the accomplished females of our nobility would grant her. The Princess complained of the total exclusion of her royal daughter from that social and cheerful communication with young ladies of her own age, which would, in some respects, prepare her for that public entrance into the world, which she was soon destined to encounter. It conveys a severe reflection on the British nobility, to suppose that not one of their daughters were worthy either of corresponding or of residing with the Princess Charlotte as a friend or a companion; but to such an extent was this exclusion from the society of ladies of her own age carried, that when, during one of the visits of her Royal Highness to the sea-coast, she formed an intimacy with, and conceived a partiality for a young lady of distinction, who had frequent opportunities of enjoying the honor of conversing with her Royal Highness, and a wish was expressed, on the part of the young Princess, to carry on a correspondence with the young lady by letters, a superior authority stepped in, and the correspondence was stopped. The young lady, here alluded to, is the daughter of the late

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Earl of Shaftesbury, a nobleman in strict coincidence with the policy of the ministers. No objection could therefore have arisen to the correspondence on the score of politics.

It is curious to trace the manner in which this celebrated letter at last reached the hands for which it was destined.

It was transmitted, on the 14th of January, to Lord Liverpool and Lord Elden, sealed, by Lady Charlotte Campbell, the lady in waiting for the month, expressing her Royal Highness's pleasure, that it should be presented to the Prince Regent, and there was an open copy for their perusal.

On the 15th, the Earl of Liverpool presented his compliments to Lady Charlotte Campbell, and returned the letter unopened.

On the 18th it was returned by Lady Charlotte, intimating, that as it contained matters of importance to the state, she relied on their laying it before his Royal Highness. It was again returned unopened, with the Earl of Liverpool's compliments to Lady Charlotte, saying, that the Prince saw no reason to depart from his determination.

On the 17th, it was returned in the same way by command of her Royal Highness, expressing her confidence, that the two noble lords would not take upon themselves the responsibility of not communicating the letter to his Royal Highness, and that she should not be the only subject in the empire, whose petition was not permitted

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to reach the throne. To this, an answer was given, that the contents of it had been made known to the Prince.

On the 19th, her Royal Highness directed a letter to be addressed to the two noble Lords, desiring to know whether it had been made known to his Royal Highness, by being read to him, and to know his pleasure thereon.

No answer was given to this letter; and, therefore, on the 26th, she directed a letter to be written, expressing her surprise that no answer had been given to her application for a whole week.

To this an answer was received, addressed to the Princess; stating, that in consequence of her Royal Highness's demand, the letter had been read to the Prince Regent on the 20th, but that he had not been pleased to express his pleasure thereon.

Here the correspondence closed; and no ulterior benefit accrued from it to the afflicted mother, nor to the daughter.

On the 5th of February, the Prince Regent gave a splendid fête at Carlton House, in honor of her Majesty's birth-day. On this occasion, her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales was present. She wore a superb dress of white lace richly embroidered in lama, body and sleeves bordered to correspond, worn over white satin. Her Royal Highness wore a profusion of the finest diamonds. Her dress had altogether a most bril-

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liant and elegant effect. The ball on this occasion was opened by the Duke of Cumberland and the Princess Mary, to the tune of "Gang nae mair to yon Town." The second dance was "Miss Johnstone," which was led off by the Duke of Clarence, and her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte.

A few days afterwards, the Princess Charlotte was present at the Opera House, and went under the auspices of the Duchess of York, and sat in her box.

The birth-day of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte was, in the year 1813, observed with every demonstration of joy. The Princesses Augusta and Mary visited her in the morning, and afterwards took her Royal Highness to visit the Duchess of Brunswick; in the evening she dined with the Princess of Wales at Kensington Palace. On the following day, her Royal Highness, accompanied by Lady de Clifford, left town for Windsor.

The indisposition of the Princess Charlotte continuing, she did not remain long at Windsor; and, during her residence in town, an incident occurred after dinner at Carlton-House, which at that time excited the particular attention of the country; and again opened the current of popular prejudice. The Earl of Lauderdale was one of the guests; and, after dinner, he gave a toast of the genuine whig school, of which his lordship has been a steady supporter.

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The party being select and private, the Princess Charlotte was present; and, on the next toast being given by her father, she burst into tears, and left the room. This circumstance gave rise to the following lines from the pen of Lord Byron, which, from their intemperance, were considered as likely to become a subject of parliamentary inquiry.

To a Lady weeping.

Weep, daughter of a royal line,
A sire's disgrace, a realm's decay :—
Ah ! happy if each tear of thine
Could wash a father's faults away !

Weep—for thy tears are Virtue's tears;
Auspicious to these suffering isles;
And be each drop, in future years,
Repaid thee by thy people's smiles.

The above acrimonious lines very justly drew upon his lordship the severity of the opposite party; and, in the following poem, he is well retaliated upon for that abuse which he so unhandsomely heaped upon others :—

Bard of the pallid front and curling hair,—
To London taste, and northern critics dear;—
Friend of the dog, companion of the bear;
Apollo drest in trimmest Turkish gear !

'Tis thine to eulogize the fell Corsair,
Scorning all laws that God or men can frame;
And yet so form'd to please the gentle fair,
That reading misses wish their loves the same.

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Thou prov'st that laws are made to aid the strong,
That murderers and thieves alone are brave,
That all religion is an idle song,
Which troubles life, and leaves us at the grave.

That men and dogs have equal claim on heaven;
Though dogs but bark, and men more wisely prate;
That to thyself one friend alone was given;
That friend a dog, now snatch'd away by fate.

And last, can tell, how *daughters best may know*
Their love and duty to their fathers dear,
By reck'ning up what *stream of filial woe*
Will give *to every crime a cleansing tear.*

Long mayst thou please this wonder-seeking age,
By Murray purchas'd, and by Moore admir'd;
May fashion never quit thy classic page,
Nor e'er be with thy Turkomania fir'd.

The Princess Charlotte not returning to Windsor, the Princess of Wales, on the 8th February, addressed herself to Lord Liverpool, desiring that he would communicate to the Prince Regent, her Royal Highness's intention to visit the Princess Charlotte at Warwick-House, not contemplating the possibility of a prevention on the part of the Prince Regent; and, under the circumstance of the Princess Charlotte's confinement, from illness. Lord Liverpool replied, that he was happy to announce the Princess Charlotte so much better, that her Royal Highness would be able to visit the Princess of Wales at Kensington Palace, on the following Thursday, 11th February. On that

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morning, however, at the moment, and not before, of the Princess of Wales stepping into her carriage, she received information that the Princess Charlotte was refused coming.

Upon this, the Princess of Wales again addressed Lord Liverpool, to know the reason, none having been assigned, for the Princess Charlotte being thus suddenly prohibited from giving the meeting to her royal mother; and when, and how soon, her Royal Highness might expect to see the Princess Charlotte. To this inquiry, the Princess of Wales received the following, not over-courteous reply:—

Fife-House, February 14.

Lord Liverpool has the honor to inform your Royal Highness, that, in consequence of the publication in the Morning Chronicle of the 10th, of a letter addressed by your Royal Highness to the Prince Regent, his Royal Highness thought fit by *the advice of his confidential servants*, to signify his commands, that the intended visit of the Princess Charlotte to your Royal Highness, on the following day, should not take place.

Lord Liverpool is not enabled to make any further communication to your Royal Highness, on the subject of your Royal Highness's note.

To this letter, the Princess of Wales commanded Lady Anne Hamilton, her lady in waiting, to reply, as follows, to Lord Liverpool:—

Montague-House, Blackheath, February 15, 1813.

Lady Anne Hamilton is commanded by her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales to represent to Lord Liverpool, that the insidious insinuation respecting the publication of the letter, addressed by the

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Princess of Wales, on the 14th January, to the Prince Regent, conveyed in his lordship's reply to her Royal Highness, is as void of foundation, and as false, as all the former accusations of the traducers of her Royal Highness's honor, in the year 1806.

Lady Anne Hamilton is further commanded to say, that dignified silence would have been preserved upon such insinuation, (more than unbecoming Lord Liverpool,) did not the effect arising from it operate to deprive her Royal Highness of the sole real happiness she can possess in this world, that of seeing her only child. And the confidential servants of the Prince Regent ought to feel ashamed of their conduct towards the Princess, in avowing to her Royal Highness their advice to the Prince Regent, that, upon unauthorized and unfounded suppositions, a mother and daughter should be prevented from meeting;—a prohibition positively against the laws of nature. Lady Anne Hamilton is commanded further to desire Lord Liverpool to lay this paper before the Prince Regent, that his Royal Highness may be aware into what error his confidential servants are leading him, by counselling and signifying such commands.

The public attention had been drawn to the grand drawing-room, which was holden by her Majesty in celebration of her birth-day, when it was expected that the Princess Charlotte would have been presented by her mother. In consequence of this anticipated event, the drawing-room was crowded beyond any former parallel;—but disappointment ensued, for her Royal Highness was not presented to the Queen. Previously, however, to entering the drawing-room, the Princess Charlotte partook of some refreshment with the Royal Family, and was in readiness to be presented, had her mother been allowed to undertake the office; and, although very urgent solici-

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tations were employed to induce her to be presented by some other branch of the Royal Family, especially by the Duchess of York, she steadily refused; declaring, that by her mother, and her mother only, would she be presented.

The Prince Regent and the Princess of Wales were both present, but a slight acknowledgment was all that passed between them.

It having been determined that Warwick-House should be the future residence of the Princess Charlotte, her baggage, saddle-horses, &c., were, in the latter end of February, removed from Windsor; and her Royal Highness was often heard to express her satisfaction at the change of her residence; her health was by no means established; and the cold which she caught at the fête at Carlton-House, tended to increase her malady.

The difference between her parents was, however, doomed to be the rock on which her happiness was to be wrecked. Her mother, with more impetuosity than prudence, determined to bring her case before Parliament; and accordingly transmitted a letter to Lord Eldon, and to the Speaker of the House of Commons; in which she acknowledges to have received from Lord Viscount Sidmouth, a copy of a Report made to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, by a certain number of the members of his Majesty's privy council; to whom it appears that her Royal Highness had been advised to refer the consideration of documents and other evidence respecting her character and con-

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duct; and, in consequence of that Report, her Royal Highness throws herself upon the wisdom of Parliament. This letter was delivered to the Speaker in such a slovenly, unofficial manner, that the Speaker doubted its authenticity, and would not read it until such time as it had been properly authenticated. The letter was accordingly read in Parliament, and produced nothing. From the Lord Chancellor, however, the answer, as it respected the intercourse of the Princess of Wales with her daughter, was of the highest consequence. The letter of his lordship, returning the one her Royal Highness had sent him to lay before the House of Lords, was to the following effect:—

That his lordship found himself under the necessity of returning the letter of her Royal Highness, which he thought it his duty to advise the Princess, from considerations of propriety, *as well as safety*, not to make public. The letter concluded with an intimation, that, by command of the Prince Regent, *the visits of her Royal Highness to Warwick-House were in future to be discontinued.*

To the above an answer was returned by the Princess of Wales, expressing her surprise at the manner, as well as the matter, of his lordship's communication; and particularly at his care for the safety of her Royal Highness; but intimating that his lordship need be under no apprehension on that ground, as the constitution and laws of England were her safeguard.

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Thus was every immediate prospect cut off of a more unrestricted intercourse taking place between the Princess of Wales and her daughter; and it is not, therefore, surprising that every opportunity should be gladly seized on, by which they could interchange the expressions of their mutual affection. A few days after the Princess of Wales had received the intimation from the Lord Chancellor, that her visits must be discontinued at Warwick-House, she was returning in her carriage down Constitution-Hill, when her Royal Highness observed the Princess Charlotte in her carriage, passing along Piccadilly towards Hyde-Park. The Princess of Wales immediately ordered her coachman to turn about, and, the horses proceeding nearly at a gallop, overtook the Princess Charlotte's carriage in Hyde-Park, near the bridge. Their Royal Highnesses projected themselves through the windows of their carriages, embraced each other in the most affectionate manner, and continued in earnest conversation for about ten minutes. A considerable number of spectators were very soon collected to the spot, and several ladies who were present shed tears at the affecting nature of the interview. When their Royal Highnesses had separated, the Princess Charlotte was observed, in continuing her ride, to be in high spirits, and apparently highly gratified at the opportunity she had enjoyed of an affectionate interchange of endearments with her royal mother.

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The mind of the Princess of Wales had been long drooping under every species of affliction, and it was now doomed to experience an additional weight in the death of her mother, the Duchess of Brunswick, which took place on the 23d of March, 1813. A hope was at that time excited, that the event of the death of the Duchess of Brunswick might be the means of disposing the illustrious parties, most nearly allied to the deceased, to come to an understanding, which would reflect honour on themselves, and give the most lively satisfaction to the country. A calamity, falling suddenly upon any particular circle of society, often disposes the individuals which compose it, to quell their personal resentments, and, in one general effusion of sorrow, to drown the recollection of private animosities.

Highly did it redound to the credit and to the honor of the Prince Regent, that he was no sooner apprized of the death of the Duchess of Brunswick, than he immediately hinted to his daughter, the propriety of a visit to her mother, but, at the same time, left it to her own judgment, whether it would not be more decorous, were the visit to be postponed until after the funeral. The tender and affectionate feelings of the Princess Charlotte would not, however, permit her to defer her visit until the time mentioned by her august father, and the intimation had not been received many hours before her Royal Highness, attended by the Duchess of Leeds, and the sub-governess,

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Miss Knight, was in her carriage on her way to Blackheath. On her arrival there, the inhabitants of that neighbourhood had assembled on the hill and heath in great crowds, and received her Royal Highness with loud huzzas.

A circumstance occurred at this visit, which exhibited the Princess of Wales not in the most amiable light; and proved that neither the presence of her daughter, whose feelings on the subject of the quarrel between her parents should have been held sacred, nor the rules of common decorum and politeness, had any influence over her actions, whenever an opportunity presented itself of her exposing the resentment which she fostered, and *which was also fostered by others*, against the illustrious father of her child. Her discourse in the presence of her daughter's attendants was of the most sarcastic nature, replete with pointed allusions to some late circumstances, and exposing the foibles of every individual, who, either from a sense of duty, or by positive authority, had acted in a manner contrary, as she termed it, to her dignity, and her personal interests. The Princess Charlotte, with a look and gesture which would have quelled almost the most stubborn spirit, and softened the asperities of the keenest resentment, solicited her mother to desist, and expressed a hope, that a short time would see her restored to happiness. "There," said the Princess of Wales, throwing a glass of wine over the table, "you may as well attempt to make that

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wine flow back into the bottle, as to check my resentment towards those individuals who have so grossly and infamously traduced me."

At this meeting, the two illustrious females passed two hours *alone;* and, on the re-appearance of the Princess Charlotte in the drawing-room, it was evident that she had been weeping; and notwithstanding all the attempts of the Princess of Wales to conceal it, it was evident that her eyes had been suffused in tears. It was construed by those present, that the cause of those tears was the loss of her mother; and certainly that loss might have its share in the grief which she displayed; but she had a deeper wound rankling at her heart, which had called forth many a tear before the decease of her mother was known to her. "Well, my dear mother," said the Princess Charlotte, as they were preparing to part, "I have ever yet found consolation in the pure exercises of religion; and, in all my affliction, I have supplicated God for support;—never yet has it been denied to me; and I will constantly pray to Him, that He will so dispose our hearts, that we, at last, may all meet together in concord and in love." "God grant it," replied the Princess of Wales; and they parted.

Notwithstanding the line of conduct which the Prince Regent had judged it necessary to adopt in regard to the Princess of Wales, it is highly creditable to his feelings, that no opportunity escaped him, by which the personal happiness of

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her Royal Highness would be increased. At this time the information was conveyed to him, that her Royal Highness was considerably in debt;—at the same time, that her establishment was not of that magnitude which her exalted rank in society demanded. On the 30th March, the following communication was made to her Royal Highness.

A demi-official notice was that day communicated to the Princess of Wales, that, at the express wish and desire of the Prince Regent, an application would be made in the ensuing Parliament for an increase to her Royal Highness's income, and the consequent enlargement of her establishment, consistently with the exalted station which her Royal Highness held in the country.

A few months now passed over the head of the Princess Charlotte, marked by no particular occurrence worthy of record. It must not, however, be omitted to mention, that, in proportion as her Royal Highness advanced in life, her attention to the performance of her religious duties increased; and never did she allow a sabbath to pass by, except in cases of indisposition, on which she did not attend divine worship. She declared her intention of constantly attending the Chapel Royal, St. James's, during her stay in London: and she ordered that the admired quartetto anthem, by Dr. Green, "*God be our hope,*" should be sung every sabbath.

What a pattern of religious virtue did this illustrious female exhibit to her cotemporaries!

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Whilst they were wasting their time in riot and dissipation, forming new schemes of pleasure, and running the destructive round of fashionable pursuits, and haunting those purlieus of immorality, where religion and virtue are scoffed at, she was on her knees before her God, and enjoyed, in his presence, those blessed feelings which always accompany the faithful Christian.

The charges against her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales having been quashed, the public feeling was gradually subsiding; and an important circumstance, connected with the future destiny of the Princess Charlotte, now began to attract the attention of the public.

The Princess Charlotte, having nearly attained her eighteenth year, presented to the nation one of the most interesting objects. She appeared like the rose, surcharged with dew, bending its head in loveliness, in after hours to bless the circle of its existence with its fragrance. Under proper cultivation, her mind and heart had received those durable impressions, which adorn and exalt the female character; and to her the nation looked as the only object, by which the sway of her illustrious house over the British realms could be perpetuated.

It had been for a long time considered as a decided point, that the Prince of Orange, at this time serving in Spain as aid-de-camp to Lord Wellington, was the individual selected to receive the hand of the Princess Charlotte; and, in many

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respects, but especially in a political one, not a more appropriate consort could have been selected for her. With a view, however, to divert the public attention from the actual purport of the recal of the Prince of Orange from Spain, it was stated, that owing to the change of affairs in Holland, his presence in that country was imperiously required. He lost no time in obeying the summons; and, on the 14th December, he was first introduced to the Princess Charlotte, at Warwick-House, by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

The Prince of Orange was already identified with British feeling by his residence and education amongst us, and by being a participator in British glory under the illustrious Wellington. The similarity of religion and of ages spoke strongly in favour of the union; and, as personal attachments are, in general, in questions of this sort, scarcely ever taken into the account, no obstacle appeared to present itself to the intended marriage. The introduction passed off with the usual formalities; and it is certain, that the impression which the young suitor made upon the heart of his intended illustrious consort, was by no means unfavourable.

As the birth-day of her Royal Highness was fast approaching, when, according to the express commands of his Majesty, she was to be considered of age; it was arranged that, in order to act in strict conformity to those commands, which he had expressed at an early period of the life of her

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Royal Highness, the confirmation of the Princess Charlotte should take place. Accordingly, on the 24th of October, 1813, her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales was privately confirmed agreeably to the forms of the Church of England. Her Majesty, the Prince Regent, and the whole of the royal family at Windsor attended at the appointed time in the private chapel, when the ceremony was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Archbishop of York, Bishop of Salisbury, Dean of Windsor, &c.

On the 7th of January, 1814, the Princess Charlotte having completed her 18th year, the auspicious day was kept with every display of festivity. In the morning her Royal Highness's tutors and principal attendants were introduced to her Royal Highness at Warwick-House, and paid their respects in due form. A number of nobility, persons of distinction, and her private friends called at the house, and left their respectful inquiries and congratulations on the return of the day. About half-past four o'clock, her Royal Highness, attended by the Duchess Dowager of Leeds, went to Connaught-Place, on a visit to the Princess of Wales, who received and conducted her into the house. One of the principal rooms, which is the library, had been completed since her last visit, with which her Royal Highness appeared extremely delighted. It contains six book-cases, the tops of each finished according to models made some years since by the Princess

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of Wales. At the end of each book-case, a pedestal is placed with a figure supporting a rich cut-glass lamp; against the pier between the windows, are supported, on brackets, two statues, one of marble, representing a Cupid, of beautiful workmanship, and a figure of Psyche. Several marble busts and figures are also supported on brackets and a great variety of fine old paintings, are with much taste displayed in the same room.

The Prince Regent being at this time on a tour in Lincolnshire, the birth-day of the Princess Charlotte was deprived of a great portion of its usual interest and splendour, but the household of the Prince Regent paid all due honor to the return of the natal day of England's hopes.

The following very appropriate lines were written on the occasion by the Rev. W. Legrice:

In choral bands, ye festive throng,
Wear the gay dance, and raise the song;
Fill high the circling glass,
And bid th' electric ruby pass.
Hush'd is each boding fear of ill,
The anxious sigh of care is still.
Present is the promis'd pleasure:
Circling suns have fill'd the measure,
And bless'd is Albion in the happy hour,
Which marks the blooming of her fairest flow'r.
Hail the day, a day of glory;
Hail the maid, whose future story,
Shall rival great Eliza's name,
And mingle with Anna's fame.
The diadem's imperial rays.
The emerald's green, and sapphire's blaze,

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Are wont with purer light to glow,
When radiant from a virgin's brow.
The dove-wing'd sceptre claims a holier sway,
And proud Submission triumphs to obey.
For waiting Beauty's soft command,
Love, Awe, and Admiration, stand.
Sweet influence the graces show'r,
And Virtue owns a sister pow'r;
While Chivalry his gauntlet throws,
In challenge vain for inmate foes,
And calls on Peace, with sweet employ,
Thro' cottag'd vale, to tune her joy;
Or, if the foreign trump of war he hears,
Uplifts the shield, and points his guardian spear.
So bright, O Charlotte! are the views,
Which bursts on the prophetic Muse!
Windsor! thy forest's mighty shade,
Shall ne'er embow'r so fair a maid,
Until—(and ev'ry Briton's pray'r
Breathes wishes for the future pair)—
Until of her's and Nassau's love,
United bliss the union prove,
And give the admiring world renew'd to see
Our Charlotte's virtues in her progeny.

The first public notice, of the intended marriage of the Princess Charlotte with the Prince of Orange, was on the 21st of April, when a member, (whose name has not been ascertained,) observed in the House of Commons, that as there had been reports spread respecting the intended marriage of the Princess Charlotte, he wished to know whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer had any communication to make to the House on this most important business.

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Mr. Vansittart said "that it would be improper for him to say any thing on this delicate subject, as he had no command to make any communication respecting it. The communication would, of course, be made without delay, as soon as such a step became proper.

Mr. Whitbread observed, that it was extraordinary, that the important step which had been determined on should first have been communicated by a foreign prince to his subjects, before it had been noticed to the House of Commons. Taking it for granted, that the sovereign Prince of the Netherlands had not told an untruth, he hoped, that when the communication was made, (which, of course, must be made with a view to the necessary pecuniary arrangements,) it would be accompanied with a recommendation to adopt such legislative provisions as might secure her Royal Highness from being taken out of the kingdom; and detained from it in a manner which might be extremely detrimental to the interest of the kingdom and which might occur without such enactment.

The calm, which had apparently settled for some time around the heads of the royal family, was now doomed again to be disturbed, which ultimately led to the departure of the Princess of Wales from the country, and opened a fresh source of affliction to her illustrious daughter.

The extended visit of the monarchs of Russia and Prussia to this country, rendered it necessary

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that a drawing-room should be held, and in consequence two were advertised, one of which was for the avowed purpose of introducing the Princess Charlotte. Various constructions were afloat as to the necessity of holding two drawing-rooms, when one might suffice; and, as it is necessary that some positive cause should be established by the journalists of the day for every action performed by any branches of the royal family, it was immediately ascertained that the reason of holding two drawing-rooms could be no other than to allow an illustrious female to appear at court without meeting her husband, and *vice versa*, that he might appear without meeting his consort; which would bear a comparison with the Dutch toy, in which, when the lady is within, the gentleman turns out, and when the latter chooses to enter, the lady briskly retreats. The conjectures, however, and all the fabrics which were constructed upon them, were suddenly thrown to the ground by the following communication from the Queen to the Princess of Wales, dated Windsor Castle, May 23, 1814 :—

The Queen considers it to be her duty to lose no time in acquainting the Princess of Wales, that she has received a communication from her son, the Prince Regent, in which he states, that her Majesty's intention of holding two drawing-rooms in the ensuing month having been notified to the public, he must declare, that he considers that his own presence at her court cannot be dispensed with; and that he desires it to be understood, for reasons of which he alone can be the judge, to be his fixed and

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unalterable determination, *not to meet the Princess of Wales upon any occasion, either in public or private.*

The Queen is thus placed under the painful necessity of intimating to the Princess of Wales, the impossibility of her Majesty's receiving her Royal Highness at the drawing-rooms.

CHARLOTTE R.

The answer of the Princess of Wales was as follows:—

MADAM,

I have received the letter which your Majesty has done me the honor to address to me, prohibiting my appearance at the public drawing-rooms, which will be held by your Majesty in the ensuing month, with great surprise and regret.

I will not presume to discuss with your Majesty, topics which must be as painful to your Majesty, as to myself.

Your Majesty is well acquainted with the affectionate regard, with which the King was so kind as to honor me up to the period of his Majesty's indisposition; which no one of his Majesty's subjects has so much cause to lament as myself;—and that his Majesty was graciously pleased to bestow upon me the most unequivocal and gratifying proof of his attachment and approbation, by his public reception of me at his court, at a season of severe and unmerited affliction, when his protection was most necessary to me. There I have since, uninterruptedly, paid my respects to your Majesty. I am now without appeal, or protector; but I cannot so far forget my duty to the King, and to myself, as to surrender my right to appear at any public drawing-room, to be held by your Majesty.

That I may not, however, add to the difficulty and uneasiness of your Majesty's situation, I yield, in the present instance, to the will of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, announced to me by your Majesty, and shall not present myself at the drawing-rooms of next month.

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It would be presumptuous in me to attempt to inquire of your Majesty, the reasons of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, for this harsh proceeding, of which his Royal Highness can alone be the judge. I am unconscious of offence; and in that reflection, I must endeavour to find consolation for all the mortifications I experience; even for this, the last, the most unexpected, and the most severe;—the prohibition given to me alone to appear before your Majesty, to offer my congratulations upon the happy termination of those calamities with which Europe has been so long afflicted, in the presence of the illustrious personages, who will, in all probability, be assembled at your Majesty's court, with whom I am so closely connected by birth and marriage.

I beseech your Majesty to do me an act of justice, to which, in the present circumstances, your Majesty is the only person competent,—by acquainting those illustrious strangers with the motives of personal consideration towards your Majesty, which alone induce me to abstain from the exercise of my right to appear before your Majesty: and that I do now, as I have done at all times, defy the malice of my enemies to fix upon me the shadow of any one imputation, which could render me unworthy of their society and regard.

Your Majesty will, I am sure, not be displeased that I should relieve myself from a suspicion of disrespect towards your Majesty, by making public the cause of my absence from court, at a time when the duties of my station would otherwise peculiarly demand my attendance.

I have the honor to be, your Majesty's
Most obedient daughter-in-law and servant,
CAROLINE P.

Connaught-House, May 24, 1814.

The Queen, on the following day, replied thus to the above letter:—

Windsor-Castle, May 25, 1814.

The Queen has received, this afternoon, the Princess of Wales's letter of yesterday, in reply to the communication which she was desired by the Prince Regent to make to her; and she is sensible of

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the disposition expressed by her Royal Highness, not to discuss with her topics which must be painful to both.

The Queen considers it incumbent upon her to send a copy of the Princess of Wales's letter to the Prince Regent; and her Majesty could have felt no hesitation in communicating to the illustrious strangers, who may possibly be present at her court, the circumstances which will prevent the Princess of Wales from appearing there, if her Royal Highness had not rendered a compliance with her wish, to this effect, unnecessary, by intimating her intention of making public the cause of her absence.

CHARLOTTE R.

To the above letter, the Princess of Wales replied:—

The Princess of Wales has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a note from the Queen, dated yesterday; and begs permission to return her best thanks to her Majesty, for her gracious condescension, in the willingness expressed by her Majesty, to have communicated to the illustrious strangers, who will, in all probability, be present at her Majesty's court, the reasons which have induced her Royal Highness not to be present.

Such communication, as it appears to her Royal Highness, cannot be less necessary, on account of any publicity which it may be in the power of her Royal Highness to give to her motives; and the Princess of Wales, therefore, entreats the active good offices of her Majesty, upon an occasion which the Princess of Wales feels it so essential to her, that she should not be misunderstood.

CAROLINE P.

Connaught-Place, May 26, 1814.

The Queen replied on the following day:—

Windsor-Castle, May 27, 1814.

The Queen cannot omit to acknowledge the receipt of the Princess of Wales's note of yesterday, although it does not appear to her Majesty to require any other reply than that conveyed to her Royal Highness's preceding letter.

CHARLOTTE R.

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On the same day, the 29th, on which the Princess of Wales replied to the letter of the Queen, she also transmitted a letter to the Prince Regent, which, as far as it regards the Princess Charlotte, cannot be perused without sympathizing with the feelings of her afflicted mother; it is as follows:—

Sir,

I am once more reluctantly compelled to address your Royal Highness; and I enclose, for your inspection, copies of a note which I have had the honor to receive from the Queen, and of the answer which I have thought it my duty to return to her Majesty. It would be in vain for me to inquire into the reasons of the alarming declaration made by your Royal Highness, that you have taken the fixed and unalterable determination, *never to meet me upon any occasion, either in public or private.* Of these your Royal Highness is pleased to state yourself to be the only judge. You will perceive, by my answer to her Majesty, that I have only been restrained, by motives of personal consideration towards her Majesty, from exercising my right of appearing before her Majesty at the public drawing-rooms, to be held in the ensuing month.

But, Sir, lest it should be, by possibility, supposed that the words of your Royal Highness can convey any insinuation from which I shrink, I am bound to demand of your Royal Highness, what circumstances can justify the proceedings you have thus thought fit to adopt.

I owe it to myself, to my daughter, and to the nation, to which I am deeply indebted for the vindication of my honor, to remind your Royal Highness, of what you know,—that, after open persecution, and mysterious inquiries upon undefined charges, the malice of my enemies fell entirely upon themselves; and that I was restored by the King, with the advice of his ministers, to the full enjoyment of my rank in his court, upon my complete acquittal. Since his Majesty's lamented illness, I have demanded,

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in the face of Parliament and the country, to be proved guilty, or to be treated as innocent. I have been declared innocent. I will not submit to be treated as guilty.

Sir, your Royal Highness may possibly refuse to read this letter; but the world must know that I have written it, and they will see my real motives for foregoing, in this instance, the rights of my rank. Occasions, however, may arise, (one, I trust, is far distant) when I must appear in public, and your Royal Highness must be present also. Can your Royal Highness have contemplated the full extent of your declaration? Has your Royal Highness forgotten the approaching marriage of our daughter, and the possibility of our coronation? I wave my rights in a case where I am not absolutely bound to assert them; in order to relieve the Queen, as far as I can, from the painful situation in which she is placed by your Royal Highness, not from any consciousness of blame, not from any doubt of the existence of those rights, or of my own worthiness to enjoy them.

Sir, the time you have selected for this proceeding is calculated to make it peculiarly galling. Many illustrious strangers are already arrived in England; amongst whom, as I am informed, the illustrious heir of the house of Orange, who has announced himself to me as my future son-in-law; from their society I am unjustly excluded. Others are expected, of equal rank to your own, to rejoice with your Royal Highness on the peace of Europe. My daughter, will, for the first time, appear in the splendour and publicity becoming the approaching nuptials of the presumptive heiress of this empire. This season your Royal Highness has chosen for treating me with fresh and unprovoked indignity; and, of all his Majesty's subjects, I alone am prevented by your Royal Highness from appearing in my place, to partake of the general joy; and am deprived of the indulgence in those feelings of pride and affection, permitted to every mother but me.

I am, Sir,

Your Royal Highness's faithful wife,

CAROLINE P.

Connaught-House, May 26, 1814.

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On the day preceding the drawing-room, Mr. Methuen, in his place in the House of Commons, rose, in consequence of the correspondence which had been laid before the public, to ask the right honourable gentleman, Mr. Bathurst, which of his Majesty's ministers it was, that had advised his Royal Highness the Prince Regent to take those measures, which had been taken to prevent the Princess of Wales from appearing at her Majesty's drawing-room?

Mr. Bathurst said, that as to the question which the honourable gentleman put, he could only say, that it did not appear to him that the circumstances and character of the transaction warranted him in giving any answer.

The celebrated drawing-room, of which so many high expectations had been formed, and which, in regard to the peculiar circumstances with which it was attended, will form a conspicuous feature in the annals of the royal family of England, was at length held, and the Princess Charlotte of Wales, for the first time, made her appearance in public. Her Royal Highness arrived a few minutes after one o'clock, accompanied by Miss Knight, in an elegant and particularly neat and light state carriage, with three footmen and the coachman in new state liveries. She was received by the Duchess of Leeds and the dresser, who had previously arrived in her plain carriage, to attend her Royal Highness in dressing in a

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court dress, for the first time. Her Royal Highness appeared in an elegant petticoat of rich white satin, with a superb border of the same, and a wreath of silver laurel-leaves, tastefully intermixed with white roses; draperies of rich embroidered patent lace, in silver lama, with a superb border, formed in festoons, and ornamented in an elegant style with wreaths of silver cord and tassels; train of rich striped and figured silver blond lace, and ornamented with beautiful diamonds; head-dress, a profusion of the most beautiful diamonds and ostrich feathers; necklace, ear-rings, armlets, and bracelets, to correspond.

At the close of the drawing-room, on her Royal Highness leaving the palace, the Prince of Orange handed her Royal Highness to her carriage.

The Princess Charlotte appeared at court in all the splendid attire and glittering ornaments which wealth could obtain, or ingenuity could devise. Around her were ranged the nobility of the country, in lavish admiration of her appearance, and well indeed, did she deserve the applause which was bestowed upon her. But, as she cast her eyes around her, there was a place which ought to have been filled, and its vacancy threw a chilling gloom over her countenance. Though the diamond sparkled at her breast, and the pearl vied with the whiteness of her bosom; though to the passing stranger there appeared tranquillity within, yet, in deep concealment, lay the worm rioting on the core of her heart, and cutting in twain the

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finest ligaments of human love and affection. It was not the pomp of courts, the glitter of attire, the deafening din of trumpets, the distant roar of cannon, nor the studied congratulations of a fawning crowd, which, to her breast, could bring peace or happiness. She sought not for it in the ways of men, for she had been too deeply schooled to look for it from that quarter; and happy, indeed, was it for her, that there was a Being above this world, in whose converse she found delight, and to whom in her secret hours, she could pour out the sorrows of her heart.

From the moment at which she arrived at an age of reflection, to the present when she was ushered into the turmoil of the world, her situation had been one of peculiar hardship and delicacy. It is too much the fate of royalty in this country, particularly in regard to the female branches of it, rarely to partake of those pleasures which arise from indiscriminate but innocent familiarity. The delights of friendship they are seldom suffered to enjoy; those of love they are debarred from. But, when the individual case of the Princess Charlotte of Wales is considered, it will be admitted to be more severe than usually falls to the lot of even a princess of the house of Brunswick. Being an only child, she was in a manner isolated from her birth. The juvenile but interesting pleasures arising from sisterly or fraternal love, she had never experienced; denied the tenderness of a mother, and

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delivered over to the care of strangers, no form had ever been presented to her, on which the eye of affection could repose. Such, in the early period of youth, was the situation of a princess destined to reign over one of the greatest nations of Europe. Arrived at maturity, as she at this time appeared to an admiring world, she beholds a sight, the most painful to a feeling and delicate mind,—the estrangement of her parents from each other. To both she owes an almost equal portion of duty; but to one in particular, are the sympathies of a daughter more peculiarly attracted. This is the hard and delicate situation, in which the Princess Charlotte was placed by the difference existing between her illustrious parents. Against her mother she knows nothing has been proved, and yet she sees her debarred from all the pleasures and enjoyments of her rank. Under such circumstances, is it not natural for a child to feel that the dagger, which stabs her mother, also wounds herself? No wonder, then, need be excited at the reluctance of her Royal Highness to partake of those pleasures of a public nature to which her age and rank entitled her. When in company, she must have been haunted by the reflection, "From all this, my mother is excluded." The idea must poison every enjoyment; must throw a gloom over every moment devoted to mirth and cheerfulness. But there is a point beyond which human forbearance would be criminal—parental authority has its bounds,

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and all within those bounds is worthy of our veneration and respect; to exact any thing beyond them is an usurpation of power, and a resistance to it constitutes no crime. The veil of the future, though open to the eye of the historian, shall not here be raised; the dark tissue of events is weaving; its warp and woof of sombre, melancholy colours; but it is woven by an Almighty hand, and to its power we bend.

Although the attention of the public was, in some measure, diverted from a close consideration of the royal differences by the treaty of peace, the arrival of the allied sovereigns in London, and the consequent formalities requisite for the due reception of such exalted visitors; yet the late prohibition of the Princess of Wales from appearing at court roused afresh all the acrimony of her party, and an immediate appeal to Parliament was recommended. Accordingly, on the 3d of June, she wrote the following letter to the Speaker of the House of Commons:—

The Princess of Wales desires Mr. Speaker will inform the House of Commons, that his Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been advised to take such steps as have prevented her from appearing at court; and to declare his Royal Highness's fixed and unalterable determination never to meet the Princess of Wales upon any occasion, either in public or private.

The proceedings of 1806 and 1807, and last year, are in the recollection of the House, as well as the ample and unqualified vindication of the Princess's conduct to which those proceedings led.

It is impossible for the Princess of Wales to conceal from herself

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the intention of the advice which has now been given to the Prince Regent, and the probability that there may be ultimate objects in view, pregnant with danger to the security of the succession and the domestic peace of the realm.

Under these circumstances, even if the Princess's duty towards herself could suffer her to remain silent; her sense of what is due to her daughter, and to the highest interests of the country, compel her to make this communication to the House of Commons.

The Princess of Wales encloses a copy of the correspondence which has passed, and requests Mr. Speaker to communicate it to the House of Commons.

Connaught-House, June 3, 1814.

That this application to Parliament was ill-timed on the part of her Royal Highness, cannot be questioned; and, indeed, in many respects, it may be considered as altogether a question to which the interference of Parliament could not be expected. The adviser of this measure being well versed in parliamentary forms, and properly acquainted with the extent of the powers of Parliament, should have known that the House could not be called upon to interfere in mere matters of etiquette, nor to settle the difference between man and wife, however exalted their station might be.

An address was moved to the Prince Regent, to acquaint the House by whom the advice was given, on which his Royal Highness was induced to form the fixed and unalterable determination never to meet her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, upon any occasion, either in private or public. The motion was, however, afterwards withdrawn, on the understanding that some steps

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would be taken to remedy the grievance complained of.

The approaching nuptials of the Princess Charlotte with the hereditary Prince of Orange still engrossed the public attention; and no little degree of surprise was excited that no official communication had yet been made to the House of Commons upon the subject. Day after day, a question was directed to the ministers, inquiring the exact state of the intended union;—and whether any, or what impediments existed to its fulfilment: the invariable answer was, that no commands had been yet received to make any communication upon the subject.

In regard to the union of the Princess Charlotte with the Prince of Orange, it has before been stated that no *personal* objection to his Serene Highness existed on the part of the Princess Charlotte; but there is something more required, in order to render a marriage productive even of common happiness, than the mere absence of any personal objection.

It may indeed be urged, that royal marriages, founded, as they generally are, on political motives, are not to be viewed through the same medium as those which take place in the humbler spheres of life;—and that, as the object is seldom the choice of the heart, all that can be rationally required is the absence of positive dislike. It is, however, a fortunate case for the daughters of royalty, that, although they possess not the power

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of choosing the individual to whom they will give their hand, they yet have the privilege of rejecting any one selected by others; although, in a political point of view, the greatest possible advantage might accrue to the nation from the alliance. It is certain that the Prince of Orange failed in gaining, even in a slight degree, the affections of the Princess Charlotte; she esteemed and respected him as an individual;—he had assisted in fighting the battles of her country; and, in his moral character there was not any thing which called for marked reprehension; but, when he appeared before her in the character of a suitor, the affections of the heart were then to be called into play; and, powerful as those affections would have reigned in the breast of the Princess Charlotte, had she met with an individual congenial with herself, yet there was not that marked character in the Prince of Orange in unison with her own, which could call into action the latent springs of her love.

In the progress of this intended marriage, the views and interests of different parties clashed most powerfully; and the result, which in a short time displayed itself, may, in a great degree, be ascribed to the impossibility which the Princess Charlotte foresaw of bringing those jarring interests to any agreeable point of reconciliation.

On the part of her mother, the most decided objection existed to the union of her Royal Highness with the Prince of Orange; on the grounds, that, as his Serene Highness was entirely under

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the influence, and acted, on all occasions, in strict conformity with the views of the Prince Regent, she saw no prospect of any amelioration in her situation resulting from the union; but, on the contrary, that the Princess Charlotte, being then constantly under the *surveillance* of her husband, would be still more liable to a restricted intercourse with herself; and a knowledge must be necessarily obtained of certain points connected with her own situation, which could not fail to draw down upon her head the severe displeasure of the Prince Regent. The Prince of Orange, in the opinion of the Princess of Wales, had offered to her a direct personal affront. She was the mother of his intended consort; and whatever difference might exist between the Prince Regent and herself, she did not deem it becoming in the individual who had declared himself her future son-in-law, to espouse the part of the father against the mother, and to treat the latter with every mark of disrespect. Was the mother of the Princess Charlotte, whose hand he was then suing for, not worthy of any personal attentions on the part of the suitor?—and, in a cool discussion of the grounds of that neglect, what other construction could be attached to it, than that he believed in the calumnies which had been promulgated against her, and, consequently, deemed her unworthy of his attentions? But, was this a conduct likely to instil into the heart of the Princess Charlotte any love or affection for him?—did it open to her,

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when by her marriage she would be emancipated from parental control, any cheering prospect of alleviating the situation of her mother, and rendering her hours more happy, by a more frequent communication with her? Did it not rather, on the contrary, expose her to a source of continual quarrel and dissension, from which the connubial state should be exempt? In the frequent conversations which took place between her Royal Highness and the Prince of Orange, this subject was often brought upon the tapis; and the latter, being once asked by the Princess, to what line of conduct she should be obliged to conform in regard to her mother? she was answered, that, as far as her visits to her mother extended, they would be allowed; but that her mother should never enter the house of the Prince of Orange. Then, said the Princess Charlotte, rising indignantly from her chair, never will the Princess Charlotte of Wales be the wife of the Prince of Orange!

Amongst the illustrious visitors attracted to this country by the important changes in the political relations of Europe, was the sister of the Emperor Alexander, the Duchess of Oldenburgh; and the customary civilities passed between the duchess and the Princess Charlotte. The duchess was a female gifted with no common endowments, whether regarded in a personal or intellectual point of view. The ascendency which she gained over every one with

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whom she conversed, was eminently displayed in a certain quarter; and, as some objections to the intended union had been already expressed by the Princess Charlotte, a portion of the duchess's rhetoric would, it was thought, be highly conducive to the removal of those objections. By one act, however, certainly not anticipated on her part, she contributed more to confirm the objections of the Princess Charlotte, than she could possibly undo by all the arguments, which skill or ingenuity could devise, although aided by her masterly powers of eloquence.

The Duchess of Oldenburgh had taken up her residence at the Pulteney hotel, which became in consequence the resort not only of the nobility of this country, but also of the numerous foreigners of distinction, who had been attracted to London, by the presence of the allied sovereigns. Amongst these visitors, was Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg; who, one morning, on paying a visit to the Duchess of Oldenburgh, was introduced by her to the Princess Charlotte of Wales, who was also then paying a morning visit to the duchess. This was a decisive moment for the Princess Charlotte; for the dignified and pleasing manners of the prince made a deep impression upon her, and laid the basis of that affection, which afterwards, springing to maturity, became the source of her happiness.

Amongst the many objections, which were now urged with peculiar force by the Princess

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Charlotte, was her aversion to quit her native land, even for a temporary period, and which was considered by the Prince of Orange as a *sine qua non* of their union. The Prince of Orange, however, in order to parry this objection of the Princess Charlotte, is said to have engaged only to take her over for a short time to Holland, with a view to shew her to the Dutch, pledging his word of honor, as a prince and gentleman, that he would himself return with her, even in a fortnight, and never ask her to go again. Suddenly, however, the Princess is said to have expressed her doubts as to the security tendered to her, that she should not be obliged to reside longer than she wished in Holland; and to have demanded that a clause should be inserted in the marriage contract, prohibiting her ever quitting this kingdom, on any account, for any time, however short. To this condition the princely suitor had not the power to consent, as he was already engaged to the Dutch to take the Princess among them for a short time; but still offering to pledge himself, as a man of honor, to return to England with her after her first introduction to his nation. In order, however, to remove any unfavorable impression, which this objection of the Princess Charlotte might excite, and wholly to acquit her of any unnecessary vacillation of conduct, it must be stated, that her objection to being carried out of the kingdom, at *that* particular juncture, arose from the unpleasant situation in which her

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mother was placed, which particularly called for her countenance and support. A sense, therefore, of filial duty influenced her to the line of conduct which she adopted, and which was, in a degree, forced upon her, by the imperious state of the circumstances in which she was, at that time, unpleasantly placed.

The Prince of Orange refused, at first, to shew the letter, containing the Princess's demands, to her royal father; still induced to hope, by affection for her person, and unwilling to sustain disappointment, that her Royal Highness might change her mind; but, in the mean time, the letter was transmitted to the Prince Regent, and to the Queen, by the writer herself.

Nothing official appearing on the part of Government, respecting this marriage, and some very unpleasant reports being afloat, of its being entirely broken off, it was publicly brought before Parliament, on the 20th June, and gave rise to the following debate:—

Sir Matthew White Ridley, bart., rose and said that, seeing a right honorable gentleman in his place, he was anxious to ask him a question, relative to a circumstance of the utmost importance to the interests of this country—he alluded to the intended marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales with the hereditary Prince of Orange; a record of which intended marriage was already on the Journals of that House. Whenever that question should be

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brought before Parliament, it would, from its extreme importance, necessarily occupy their attention very largely; and he was, therefore, the more anxious to know, at this advanced period of the session, whether it was the intention of ministers to make any communication to the House on this subject?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he could give no other answer to the question of the honorable baronet, than to say, that the ministers of his Royal Highness had received no authority to make any communication to Parliament.

Mr. Whitbread rose, and said, it was impossible the answer they had just heard from the right honorable gentleman could satisfy either that House, or the country at large. It had been solemnly announced by the sovereign prince of the United Netherlands to his own people, that an alliance was about to take place between his son, the hereditary Prince of Orange, and her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales; a record of which intended marriage was already on the Journals of that House. And it had been proclaimed by her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, in her communication to that House, now entered upon their Journals, that the illustrious Prince of Orange had announced himself to her as her future son-in-law. Questions on this most important subject had been asked from time to time, but they had never been answered; they were uniformly evaded by ministers; but he thought the

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time was now come when the House should no longer suffer itself to be treated with that disrespect.

The right honorable Charles Bragge Bathurst rose to order. He did not think it exactly right, when ministers had declared they had no commission to make any communication to the House, that a discussion should be prematurely forced on:—such a practice was both inconvenient and irregular.

Mr. Whitbread said, he would put the matter in a shape which would render it regular, by concluding with a motion; he repeated, that the House of Commons had been treated disrespectfully: if ministers, in so important a case, and after such a lapse of time, had no authority to communicate to the House the state of the proceedings, it became the House to interfere, and to address his Royal Highness the Prince Regent to give authority for such a communication. The right honourable gentleman opposite had not denied that the assertion in her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales's letter, of the intended marriage of her royal daughter with the hereditary Prince of Orange, was true; it had been, however, publicly reported, and was as publicly believed, that the intended marriage, which, with the consent of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, had been so long proceeding, was suddenly at an end; the grounds had even been stated, on which it had terminated, and those grounds

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were so intimately connected with the question which was to be brought forward by an honorable gentleman on a subsequent day that it was of material importance to the House to know the fact; and to be informed, if the intention was put aside, on what grounds that had occurred. It had been generally believed, circumstances closely connected with the object of the honorable gentleman's motion were the cause of that which had taken place; it had been stated this day, in the very streets, that her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales had declined any farther proceedings in the intended marriage, on account of the situation of her royal mother; if that was the case, it undoubtedly must endear her Royal Highness to every generous and feeling heart; it would prove, that the subject on which the House were not to touch, as too delicate for their investigation, had risen to such great political importance, that it might very possibly operate to prevent this most beneficial and desirable union. In order to ascertain the fact, the honorable baronet, his honorable friend, had proposed a question to the right honorable gentleman, which had been very unsatisfactorily evaded; he was sure that the right honorable gentleman and his colleagues could not be disposed to trust the discussion of a subject, so interesting and important, to the close of the session; and nothing was more certain, than that after the business of next week, no great attendance could be expected in Parliament.

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In the hope, therefore, of obtaining satisfactory information, or, at least, with the determination that his wish to do so should be recorded in the Journals, he would move, "That an humble address be presented to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, praying that he would be graciously pleased to acquaint the House, if there be a treaty of marriage on foot between her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, and the hereditary Prince of Orange."

Sir Matthew White Ridley, bart., seconded the motion. He flattered himself that the answer to the question which he had put to the right honorable gentleman, would have proved satisfactory. As that, unfortunately, had not been the case, he was gratified to find the subject taken up by one who was so much more able to do justice to it than himself. His honorable friend had stated many reasons for expecting that the House would be put in possession of some information on the subject. Another, which he (Sir M. W. Ridley) had heard, and which still more convinced him of the expediency of bringing the subject under the consideration of Parliament, was the report that, in the event of the marriage taking place, her Royal Highness might be induced to quit the country. This supposition rendered him more than ordinarily anxious that the real state and nature of the whole proceedings should be laid before the House.

Mr. Stephen, said, that the honorable gen-

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gleman (Mr. Whitbread) had redeemed himself from the charge of disorder, by reducing his observations to a formal motion. If every thing that was within the rules of order, was also within the rules of propriety—within the rules of delicacy—within the rules of public decency—then the honorable gentleman's conduct might have been not only orderly, but it might have been delicate; it might have been decent; for aught he knew, it might have been discreet. But if, in defending himself from the charge of disorder, the honorable gentleman had exposed himself to other imputations;—if it should be the opinion of a great majority of the House, that he had not exonerated himself from all impropriety, by the mere reduction of his observations into a formal motion,—then he (Mr. Stephen) must regard that motion as the most indiscreet, as the most indelicate, as the most indecent. (*Order! Order!*). Mr. Stephen repeated, that his observations were not intended to apply to the honorable gentleman, but to his proposition, which he would again say was most indiscreet, most indelicate, and most indecent; and this he would assert, not only with regard to the proposition itself, but with regard to some of the circumstances stated by the honorable gentleman in support of it. What the fact was, the House knew not; the honorable gentleman assumed it; but was Parliament, on the strength of that assumption, not only to break into the sanctity and delicacy

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of conjugal relations, but also upon all those of a parental nature? As well as being most indelicate, the proposition made by the honorable gentleman was most wanton; for he himself stated, that the intended engagement, which was the object of it, had been relinquished. Would it be to treat rank and sex with respect, to drag into public view all the delicate circumstances of a proceeding, which, according to the honorable gentleman's own declaration, was not likely to be completed? What would the honorable gentleman think of such a proposition, if it regarded his sister or his daughter? Was it compatible with the attention due to the delicacy of the female character, to expose all the circumstances of an abortive negotiation, such as that which the honorable gentleman had described; and this after it had been distinctly stated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that his Majesty's ministers were authorized not to make any communication to Parliament on the subject? *(Hear! hear!)*—He understood the cause of the cheer from the honorable gentlemen opposite; he had inadvertently misplaced a word;—he had said, that his Majesty's ministers were authorized not to make any communication. He was not afraid of any such united hostility, however clamorous; it would only recoil on those from whom it proceeded. If ever there was a motion which required a regular notice; if ever there was a case in which the House ought to have time for consideration;

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if ever there was a subject on which ministers should have an opportunity afforded them for digesting their answer, it was the present. It was under the impression of this conviction, that, although he saw his right honorable friend, the Chancellor of the Exchequer preparing to rise, he had ventured to claim the attention of the House. It was most unfair to take his Majesty's ministers in this manner by surprise, and suddenly to place them in a situation of difficulty, for no other purpose than to afford the honorable gentleman a vehicle for observations, which it would have been better he had never uttered.

Mr. Robinson was of opinion, that much unnecessary warmth had been exhibited in this discussion; a discussion which took place solely because one honorable gentleman having asked a question, and having been told that his Majesty's ministers were not authorized to make any communication to parliament on the subject, another honorable gentleman thought proper to make a motion relative to a proceeding of which the House, as a house of Parliament, had no knowledge whatever. If his Royal Highness the Prince Regent had made any communication to the House on the subject, and if a considerable period had elapsed since that communication to the House, there might be some ground to call on Parliament to acquiesce in the honorable gentleman's motion; but as far as he knew, the House, as a house, were not aware even of the existence

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of such a negotiation as that which had been alluded to. No worse reason could possibly be brought forward to induce the House to interfere on such a delicate subject, than the stories which, according to the honorable gentleman, were hawked about the streets, with respect to it; except, indeed, it were that singular one described by the honorable baronet, as particularly operative on his mind, namely, the report that if the marriage were concluded, her Royal Highness would be induced to leave the country. Surely when it was asserted, that the negotiation for the marriage was broken off, this last reason for inquiring into the subject became extremely futile and absurd. There could be no necessity for any precipitation or warmth in the business; if the honorable gentleman thought, in the present stage of the proceeding (whatever it might be), that it was expedient for Parliament to interfere, at least, let them give the House time to cool, and ministers, who were responsible for their advice which they might give on the subject, opportunity to afford to it all the consideration which its importance demanded.

Sir M. W. Ridley explained. What he had said was, that he understood, in the event of the marriage having taken place, her Royal Highness would have quitted the country;—a circumstance of such importance, that the sooner it was brought forward in Parliament the better.

Mr. Horner agreed entirely with his honorable

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friend, (Mr. Whitbread,) as to the extreme importance of the subject; both as affecting the illustrious character more immediately concerned, and as involving in it some of the great interests of the state. But, while he agreed with his honorable friend, as to the importance of the question, it was impossible for him to deny the truth of what had been said by others, as to the propriety of greater deliberation, and an extended notice of discussion. He was not presumptuous enough to suppose that his honorable friend stood in need of his advice to shape his parliamentary conduct; but he earnestly recommended to him to postpone his motion, until the House should be better prepared, and in better temper, to discuss it; letting that which had passed stand for notice; not doubting that, whenever it might be brought forward, he, (Mr. Horner,) viewing the subject in the same light as that in which it was seen by his honorable friend, should most cordially concur in his proposition.

Mr. Whitbread declared that there was no one to whose advice he would sooner listen, than to his honorable and learned friend who had just spoken; and no one, to whose advice he was less disposed to attend than the honorable and learned gentleman opposite. As to the qualities of moderation, propriety, and discretion, he would go to the honorable gentleman opposite, (Mr. Robinson,) for them; he would go for them to his learned friend behind him, (Mr. Horner); but in his search he would

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avoid and go out of the way of the honorable and learned gentleman opposite, (Mr. Stephen). He would abstain from noticing a word of what had fallen from that honorable and learned gentleman; he wished to forget it;—but he could assure him that he did not care a straw about it. With respect to the suddenness of his motion, it should be recollected, that the occasion was as sudden. His honorable friend (without the slightest concert with him) had put a question to the right honorable gentleman opposite, on which that right honorable gentleman had thought proper to remain mute; upon this, he (Mr. W.) had availed himself of one of the most useful and important privileges of a member of that House—that of raising an immediate question—in order to enable him to make the observations, which appeared to him to be necessary on the subject. Having done this, he was perfectly ready to wave any farther proceedings; never having seriously meant to take the question out of his honorable friend's hands. With the leave of the House, therefore, he would withdraw his motion.

The whole dispute, as to the rupture of the marriage of the Princess Charlotte, supposing that rupture to proceed from the dread which her Royal Highness entertained of leaving the country, may be justly classed under two heads:—The first, Whether her Royal Highness had a right to insist upon a permanent residence or domicile in England, with occasional temporary absence,

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instead of a permanent residence in Holland, with occasional temporary visits to England; and, secondly, Whether she had reason to understand that the latter, rather than the former, was intended by her illustrious suitor?—With those who approve of a foreign residence for her Royal Highness, the second question need not be discussed; but a suggestion naturally presents itself, that, whatever their notions of constitutional policy and expediency may be on this subject, they must, in candour, admit that her Royal Highness possessed a right to judge differently; and also to withdraw her consent to a marriage, so essential a condition of which had not been, previously to that consent, made known to her. There are few individuals, to whatever party they may belong, who are not agreed that the presumptive, and, it may be almost said, the apparent, heiress of these realms ought not to be placed at a distance, for many years, from English manners and characters; or even, as a point of national dignity, be made to follow the fortunes of a less considerable family. In fact, it forms a part of her Royal Highness's letter to Lord Liverpool, wherein she states, "that she has not as yet enjoyed, in any competent degree, the means of seeing her own country, or of becoming acquainted with the people towards whom she may hereafter be called upon to discharge the most important duties." Her Royal Highness was arrived at a time of life, when the mind may be expected to expand towards the laws and institu-

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tions of her country; and, as she was hereafter destined to govern it, it was but proper that she should have opportunities afforded her of becoming acquainted with all that belong to it.

Where a question is involved in general doubt, it becomes an arduous undertaking to select any particular ramification which may lead to the solution of it. Every case assumes a complexion according to the party-spirit of the individual, and the semblance even of truth is lost in the counterfeit representations which are made. The actual cause of the rupture of the marriage of the Princess Charlotte with the Prince of Orange remains, to this day, a mystery; and the solution of it is carefully locked up in the breasts of those, whose interest, or whose character, prompts them to keep it there. Thus they, who have been the staunch opponents of the Princess of Wales, would not have it considered, on any account, that the rupture of the marriage was occasioned by the lamentable dissensions of the parents of the Princess Charlotte; as that would involve a point of the greatest national interest, namely, that of a matrimonial alliance, so favourable, so advantageous, to the country, in a political point of view, having been rejected, on account of the private and personal differences of the royal pair; in which one of the highest assemblies of the kingdom had but a short time before declared, that it could not interfere, as it was merely a quarrel between man and wife, and could not be considered as a

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national concern. With these partizans, therefore, the dread which the Princess Charlotte felt at leaving the country, was the sole and only probable cause of the rupture of the marriage. A different complexion was, however, given to it by the other party; who, in their turn, declared that the marriage was positively and solely broken off by the Princess Charlotte requiring a recognized right to visit the Princess of Wales, without limit or restraint, and a similar right to receive her at the hereditary house. In answer to which demand, the young prince declared himself willing to allow her Royal Highness to visit the Princess of Wales, making the right, however, subject to such limitation and restraint as HE may think proper; but he could not, by any means, allow the Princess of Wales to be received at his house. The Princess Charlotte, however, being firm in her purpose of establishing a recognised and undisturbed right of intercourse with her royal mother, the negotiation was understood to have finally broken off on this point.

In this conflict of opinions, a third party steps in, and asserts, that the negotiation was broken off in consequence of the extraordinary treatment of an exalted personage; and that the King of Prussia, and several of the princes of her house, were present during the discussion. As far, however, as the assertion of the Princess Charlotte herself may be considered as decisive of this

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important question, it must be admitted, that the situation of her mother was the efficient cause of the rupture of the negotiation; for, in her letter to Lord Liverpool, she says, that she objects to be carried out of the kingdom at *this* time, when her presence might be so desirable to alleviate the situation of her mother; and, in the same letter to Lord Liverpool, there was a complaint made of the system of privacy and seclusion which had been adopted throughout the entire education of the Princess Charlotte,—a system which, however it may have been authorized by *precedent*, in the case of other princesses of the royal family, was by no means applicable to the person likely to sway the sceptre of these realms.

Firm and resolute in her determination to break off all negotiation respecting her marriage with the Prince of Orange, the Princess Charlotte wrote a letter to him expressive of her sentiments, in which she assured him that no personal objection to the union had influenced her in the determination she had come to; but that she was guided to it by those principles, a dereliction from which she would consider as a stigma upon her character.

On the receipt of this letter, the rejected suitor left London and set sail for Holland.

It is a curious coincidence, that, at the fête given by the city of London to the allied sovereigns, the Prince of Orange and Prince Leopold

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of Saxe-Coburg sat close to each other; the one had lost the presumptive heiress to the first throne in the world, the other had gained her.

This positive rejection of the Prince of Orange exposed the Princess Charlotte to the most urgent remonstrances and expostulations on the part of the Prince Regent. From some quarters the most severe animadversions were passed upon her; and, by certain individuals, the dismissal of the Prince of Orange was denounced as a mere whim and caprice, and that no substantial grounds could be adduced by the Princess Charlotte for the line of conduct which she had adopted. Thus, in their way of reasoning, were the interests of the nation to be sacrificed at the shrine of female instability! and it was shrewdly argued, that the objections might not be of an insuperable nature; as a partial concession of the claims or conditions, made by either party, would, in a moment, place the business again in the fairest train of being ultimately completed. Reports were therefore raised of a renewal of the negociation; and that, should it then fail, the fault could be attributed to the Princess Charlotte, and to her only.

The negociation, was, however, not renewed; and the Prince of Orange afterwards entered into a matrimonial alliance with one of the archduchesses of Russia, sister to the Emperor Alexander and to the Duchess of Oldenburg, who had taken such an active interest in his union with the Princess Charlotte of Wales.

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The harassed situation in which the Princess Charlotte of Wales had been for some time, materially injured her health, and medical advice was resorted to. Dr. Baillie, Messrs. Cline and Keate were consulted; and, on the 6th July, the following certificate was made by those high professional characters:—

Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, being still not altogether free from the complaint in her right knee, and her Royal Highness's general health being considerably impaired, we recommend a residence on the sea-coast for two or three months this autumn; as the means most likely to restore her general health, and to cure what remains of the local affection.

(Signed) M. Baillie,
H. Cline,
July 6, 1814. R. Keate.

The advice was subsequently followed, and the Princess Charlotte repaired to Weymouth.

It now becomes the duty of the historian to record one of the most extraordinary and singular actions which distinguish the short life of the Princess Charlotte of Wales; and which certainly exposed her to the severe censure of all those who viewed the affair in its proper light, and who could not be brought to qualify a positive breach of decorum, and a total neglect of all the dignity due to her rank, by the broad appellation of an act of a high and undaunted spirit. Unmerited aggression may, it is allowed, do much towards the commission of an indecorous act; but, in all cases, there is a dignity due to ourselves, and to

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the rank we hold in society, which ought invariably to protect us from the commission of any act which could bring opprobrium on our heads. It must, however, at the same time, be admitted, that we cannot always keep a command over those feelings which suddenly impel us to action, when a series of undeserved injuries presses upon us, and no other outlet presents itself to our deliverance, than some bold and extraordinary act, which, under any other circumstances, would never have been attempted.

On the 16th July, the Princess Charlotte received an intimation from the Prince Regent, that an entire change in her establishment was in contemplation; and it was given with all that kindness and affection for which the Prince has been so universally distinguished in every point connected with the treatment of his beloved daughter. It is impossible to divine the motive of the Prince Regent for the adoption of this apparently harsh measure, nor was it ever elucidated to the satisfaction of the public. It is certain, that some altercations had taken place between the Prince and his daughter, in consequence of the latter rejecting the Prince of Orange; and it was generally credited, that the sudden dismissal of the establishment of the Princess Charlotte had some connexion with that unpleasant subject. It is, however, very difficult to trace that connexion; for the rejection of the Prince of Orange arose from motives which could have originated only in

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her breast, and over which the influence of others could not be supposed to possess any preponderating weight. The cause of the rejection lay in her own feelings, excited by a strong sense of filial duty; and she acted from the pure impulse of those feelings, unbiassed by the judgment of others. As far, therefore, as rational calculations can extend, the dismissal of the establishment of the Princess Charlotte could not be considered as being connected with the rejection of the Prince of Orange, and, consequently, some other cause must be sought for. In all families, and particularly in those of exalted rank, there are those individuals, who, for the promotion of their private interests, will secretly perform any private service by which the heads of those families can obtain the accomplishment of their views. That the Princess Charlotte had, by her kindness, and by her affable manners, gained herself some friends in her establishment, cannot be doubted; and that she contrived sometimes, by the aid of those friends, to obtain intelligence of her mother, and even to see her, is put beyond all doubt, by the circumstance of the Princess of Wales being once at Warwick-House, a short time previously to the final rejection of the Prince of Orange, without the slightest suspicion, or even the cognizance of her establishment, with the exception of one individual, and the Princess Charlotte herself. That the establishment of her Royal Highness, one person only excepted, were, from

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information which cannot be doubted, the strong and vociferous advocates of her mother's cause, is most certain; and, therefore, in the opinion of the opposite party, such servants were not proper persons to be continually about the person of the Princess Charlotte. The actual cause of the dismissal of her establishment has, however, to this time, remained a secret. It cannot be supposed, that such an important step would have been undertaken upon vague and uncertain grounds, nor without that mature consideration, which the strong necessity of the case demanded.

On the 12th July, the Prince repaired to Warwick-House, and informed the Princess Charlotte that he was come to dismiss Miss Knight, and all her household, as well as all the servants attending upon her Royal Highness; and that her Royal Highness must forthwith take up her temporary residence in Carlton-House, and from thence go to Cranbourn-Lodge; and that the Countess Dowager of Rosslyn, the Countess of Ilchester, the two Miss Coates, and Mrs. Campbell, were actually in the next room, in readiness to wait upon her. Some strong expostulation ensued on the part of the Princess Charlotte; but the Prince Regent was most firm and resolute, and his admonitions appeared to have their due weight on the mind of his illustrious daughter. On his Royal Highness proposing, therefore, to introduce to the Princess Charlotte, Ladies Rosslyn, and Ilchester, and Mrs. Campbell, her Royal Highness pleaded a

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wish to retire for a few moments to compose herself before the introduction took place.

Her Royal Highness retired; and, whilst the Prince was engaged in close conversation with Miss Knight, the Princess Charlotte, in an agony of despair, privately left Warwick-House, and, throwing herself into a hackney-coach, in Cockspur-street, drove to Connaught-House, the residence of her mother.

On the arrival of the Princess Charlotte at Connaught-House, whither she had been driven with great rapidity, in consequence of the bribe which she offered to the coachman, she found the Princess of Wales absent; but Mr. Sicard, the steward, instantly despatched a messenger to her, who met her on the road from Blackheath, and delivered the Princess Charlotte's note, acquainting her with the event. The Princess of Wales immediately drove to the Parliament-House, and eagerly inquired for Mr. Whitbread, who was absent. She then inquired for Earl Grey, who had left town several days before. She then went on to her own house in Connaught-Place, where her daughter communicated the particulars of this extraordinary transaction. Mr. Brougham, who had been sent for to Mr. Michael Angelo Taylor's, had arrived in the mean time.

As soon as the discovery of the flight of the Princess Charlotte was made known to the Prince Regent, he sent for his ministers, to consult them upon the measures proper to be adopted. A

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council was held at the Foreign Office, and also at Carlton-House. Notice of it was also sent to the Queen, who had a card party, which she instantly left.

In the mean time, the first step taken by the Prince was to send the Bishop of Salisbury to the Princess Charlotte, to remonstrate with her; and the Duke of York was soon afterwards sent with a written message from the Prince, which stated her father's commands to bring her to Carlton-House. Mr. Brougham had previously acquainted her Royal Highness, that, by the laws of the land, she must obey her father's command; and, when the Duke of York gave her an assurance that she should not be immured, nor treated with the severity which had been threatened, she consented to return with him; and accordingly, at a little past three o'clock on Wednesday morning, her Royal Highness was conveyed to Carlton-House. All the persons, by whom she had been served, were removed from the attendance on her person, with the exception of Mrs. Lewis, who had followed her to Connaught-House, with her night-clothes, and who was permitted to return with her in the carriage, along with the Duke of York.

That this extraordinary circumstance became the general topic of conversation throughout the nation may be easily imagined; and, as the British people are, by their generous nature, enthusiastically alive to the protection of innocence, laboring under either supposed or positive in-

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jury, the most violent reflections were cast upon those, who were supposed to be the principal cause of having driven the Princess Charlotte to the commission of so extraordinary an act. Rumours, set afloat by party-spirit, aggravated the evil, and the whole case was gladly seized upon to degrade an exalted personage in the estimation of the people. It was strongly contended, that the conduct of the Prince Regent was an usurpation and a stretch of parental power, unsanctioned and unauthorized by the laws of nature or of man; and it was farther alleged, that as the Princess Charlotte was of age, she became the property of the nation, and to the authorities of the nation was she solely amenable for her actions. These violent discussions, however, ended as they generally do, in leaving the matter in question unchanged in its general complexion, with no positive benefit resulting to the party concerned.

In the mean time some very heavy restrictions were placed upon the conduct of the Princess Charlotte; her letters and communications were stopped, and she was only allowed to see those persons immediately connected with the Regent's party.

Amongst the other exalted characters, who called at Carlton-House to pay their respects to the Princess Charlotte, and who were refused admittance to her, was the Duke of Sussex; he, therefore, without hesitation, repaired to the House of Lords, on the 19th of July, and addressed the House as follows:—

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"My Lords, I rise under a considerable degree of embarrassment, and certainly with a degree of anxiety, which I am not able to describe; I shall not, therefore, upon the present occasion, do more than express my hope, that the noble earl opposite (Liverpool) will feel himself called upon by his duty to answer some questions which I feel it my duty to put to him. He will, doubtless, conceive that, in proposing them, I act perfectly separate and distinct from any party-feeling whatever; that I am instigated solely by my own feelings, by the situation in which I stand; and that the questions which I shall ask upon this occasion, are unauthorized by the sanction of any individual. I suggest them to the noble lord, under a strong sense of duty belonging to my situation. They relate to the events which have recently occurred, which are well known to the public; and with which the persons, consulted on that delicate occasion, must likewise be well acquainted. Of the conduct of other persons I must speak with that dutiful respect which I can most conscientiously pay. With this preface, I shall proceed to put my questions to the noble earl, and if any noble lord have difficulties regarding the questions, I will repeat them. I shall now proceed to put them in the order which appears to me most convenient. The first question I would ask is—

"Whether, since the removal of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales to Carlton-

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House, her Royal Highness has been allowed that communication and intercourse with her friends and connexions, which she enjoyed previously, when she resided in Warwick-House? I am anxious to receive an answer to that question."

The Duke of Sussex here paused, waiting a reply. His Royal Highness proceeded:—

"If the noble lord thinks fit to decline giving any reply to that question, I will go on to the next—" (Some noble lord signified a wish that the question should be repeated). The Duke of Sussex complied, and put it again to the Earl of Liverpool; who, not rising to reply, his Royal Highness continued—"The noble earl may wish, perhaps, to answer my questions together. I ask him, secondly—

"Whether her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, since her removal to Carlton-House, has been allowed the liberty of communicating in writing with her friends, and of receiving letters from them; or has been permitted to have the use of pen, ink, and paper in the same manner as when she resided in Warwick-House?

"The third question to which I beg an answer is as follows—Whether her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, in Carlton House, is allowed that liberty, which persons not in confinement enjoy?

"My fourth question is—Whether, in the course of the last year, the same recommendation as to sea-bathing and sea-air, was given to her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, which

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is understood to have been given in the present year?

"Fifthly, I beg leave to ask—Whether her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, having arrived at the age of eighteen years and a half, (which is past the period at which Parliament has recognized the capability of members of the royal family to assume the reins of the government of the country without assistance) there is any intention to provide for her Royal Highness an establishment suitable to her situation; and enabling her to hold communication with, and to mix in, that high society over which, I hope, her Royal Highness will hereafter preside? To these five questions I await the answer of the noble lord."

Lord Liverpool left it to their lordships to consider, whether such questions as these ought to be put, and whether, when put, they ought to be answered? The Prince Regent was the father of his family, and it belonged to his prerogative to regulate the education of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales as he might think proper. The Prince Regent had done nothing, with respect to her Royal Highness, except what was for her benefit: that he felt towards her as a father ought to feel, with the strongest and warmest affection; and was only anxious to perform those duties which God, nature, and the laws of the land, imposed upon him. He trusted that, under such circumstances as the present, their lordships would give his Royal

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Highness credit, for not having conducted himself but on grounds the best calculated to promote her comfort, benefit, and honor.

The Duke of Sussex replied, that he had listened with the greatest attention to what had fallen from the lips of the noble earl. If it be thought that, in any thing that was uttered by him, he meant to express an opinion disrespectful of the high personage to whom the noble earl alluded, he begged to disclaim any such intention; in so doing, he conceived he should have transgressed the orders of the House, and it would have been the duty of any noble lord to have interposed to prevent it. He assured the House, he felt no such disposition. He confessed himself not at all satisfied with what had been said by the noble earl upon the occasion; and, therefore, gave notice that, on Friday the 22d, he should bring forward a motion on the subject.

The Lord Chancellor could not be altogether silent. The illustrious Duke had said, that he meant no disrespect with reference to a certain quarter, and he was persuaded that he did not mean it; but he would take the liberty of saying, that, if the noble earl had answered those questions which had been put to him, he would have betrayed every duty which he owed as to the quarter to which he alluded; and he now told him, that, if he had answered those questions,—he meant the first four of them,—the noble earl and he would never have conversed together again.

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What was the meaning of the questions? When it was asked, whether the Princess had the liberty of communication with her friends, (with her enemies, might have been added); whether she had the free use of pen, ink, and paper; whether she enjoyed the same liberty as one not in confinement?—was not all this imputation? It was an imputation on the ministers of the Prince Regent. But his Royal Highness had the right, under the advice of responsible servants, to educate the children of his family as he may think fit; and no interference by Parliament could be justifiable, unless strong grounds were laid for it. If the advice which had been given, and followed, in the most laudable manner by his Royal Highness, was wrong, his ministers were responsible; and if his Royal Highness had been misled, he, at least, would have the satisfaction of having acted as one who deserved applause, and not censure.

The motion was, however, not brought forward on the day appointed by the illustrious Duke, and the business was dropped.

On the 18th July, the Princess Charlotte was removed from Carlton-House to Cranbourne-Lodge, attended by the Dowager Lady Rosslyn, Lady Ilchester, and other personages of her new establishment, which had been selected for her by the Prince Regent. The situation of her Royal Highness, at her new abode, is represented not to have been of the most pleasant or agreeable

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nature. The dull formality of morning visits from a select few, or a two-hours' ride in Windsor Great Park, or a game at cards in the evening, would have filled up the measure of her time, had not her mind been of that superior cast, and its bent and inclinations of that elevated nature, that she always found those resources within herself, by which her heart and mind became improved, and which ultimately gave that high finish to her character, which rendered her so much the object of universal admiration. Being naturally of a deep and reflecting habit, she here had ample means wherewith to gratify it; and glancing over the superficies of things, she penetrated to their interior, discovered their relations to each other, and formed by her own powers of ratiocination, those nice and distinct associations, which are the invariable index to a strong and vigorous mind. When the dispositions and inclinations are good, and when a proper direction has been given at an early age to the energies of the mind, seclusion from the world may be considered as highly conducive to the formation of a great and excellent character; inasmuch as the mind becomes diverted from trivial objects, and attaches itself to those from which a more substantial profit is to be acquired. In the culture of her flowers, in the study of her favourite authors, in the practice of her charitable dispositions, and, more than all, in her frequent and holy conversations with her God, she filled up the hours of her

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day; and when she closed her eyes at night, she could look up to that God with confidence, and implore his strengthening aid to support and animate her through the ways which she had chosen, and to protect her from every temptation which might lead her from the track of virtue and religion.

In the meantime, the public opinion of the coercive measures, which had been adopted towards the Princess Charlotte, was expressed in the most open and undisguised manner. The party which had so perseveringly espoused the cause of the Princess of Wales, was most clamorous in their expressions of indignation at what they were pleased to call the incarceration of the presumptive heiress to the throne; and every epithet of opprobrium and of obloquy was vociferated against that illustrious individual who was considered the sole author of the unconstitutional treatment of the Princess Charlotte. The Duke of Sussex, in the House of Lords, on the 25th of July, again adverted to the situation of the Princess Charlotte; and, addresing himself to the first Lord of the Treasury, stated, that this was the day, when from courtesy alone, he had proposed to come down to the House, with the view of stating the tenor of his motion relative to her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, which had stood fixed for the following week: that, having found, by the newspapers, that her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte

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of Wales had been seen on horseback in Windsor Great Park, and had likewise learned that she had been in town for a few hours on Saturday last, all of which intelligence he had collected from the public prints; he was inclined to hope that more lenient measures were intended to be observed towards her Royal Highness. That the noble lord well knew it was upon receiving an unfavorable answer to a request which he had made to him, of seeing her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, that he had conceived himself obliged to bring this weighty matter forward from most conscientious motives, and for which purpose he had put five questions to that noble lord on a previous occasion. He trusted that her Royal Highness would get to the sea-side, as had been recommended by her medical and professional attendants, for the re-establishment of her health, which was so interesting to the country at large, and which had been so greatly impaired by agitation of mind. He also flattered himself that measures would be adopted to soothe her mind, and not to distress her spirits by pressing certain points which had given rise to this agitation, and upon which he knew her mind was completely made up. He begged, therefore, to address a few words to the noble and learned lord on the woolsack, who was so forward in stating responsibility on his Majesty's servants for the advice they might have given upon this occasion: that he would quote the words, he believed, of

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lord Bacon, "That reading made a learned man, writing a correct man, and conversation a ready man." He would farther add, that retirement, coercion, and seclusion, were not the means calculated to impress her Royal Highness with the most favourable idea of the beauty and advantages of the glorious constitution of her country, over which she was one day, please God, to rule; and with this remark he should conclude.

Lord Liverpool approved of the resolution adopted by the illustrious Duke; he was by no means anxious to prolong discussion upon such a subject, but he would not feel acquitted of his duty, if he did not say, that neither at the time to which he had alluded in his notice, nor at any other time, had any intention been entertained to subject her Royal Highness to any restraint unsuited to her sex, her age, or her situation; no, nor unsuited to the interest which the country must take in her circumstances, nor to the feelings of the illustrious person to whose care she was first entitled.

Thus ended all parliamentary discussion respecting the situation of the Princess Charlotte, and the public attention was now drawn to a report, proceeding from good authority, which was in general circulation,—of an intention, on the part of the Princess of Wales, to leave the country, and to retire to the continent, where her future abode was to be fixed.—This report was at first so little credited, that it was considered as a

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mere firebrand, thrown by the party of the Princess of Wales, to inflame afresh the public mind, and to drag her situation again before the bar of the people. It was regarded, on a *prima facie* view, as highly repulsive to the principles of the constitution, that the future queen of the country should select a foreign residence, and thereby lose all knowledge of the interests and national rights of that people, over whom she was one day destined to hold the sceptre. Besides, a liberal augmentation to the income of her Royal Highness had been lately granted by Parliament; and was she, therefore, immediately to exile herself from the country, and expend that income amongst foreigners, which ought to circulate in the land which gave it to her? Her friends, unwilling to attach the right motive to the intended expatriation of her Royal Highness, ascribed it to compulsion and obligation from a certain quarter, and viewed it as a positive condition that a legal separation, which was then talked of, should not take place. These reports were, however, merely circulated with a view of exonerating the Princess of Wales from any charge of disrespect towards the nation, and of throwing the opprobrium of the measure entirely upon an illustrious individual, who had no other share in the affair than the mere grant of his consent. The departure of the Princess of Wales was also looked upon as the signal for the renewal of the negotiation with the Prince of Orange; as it was

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supposed that the influence of her Royal Highness over her illustrious daughter on that subject was paramount to that which any other person could exercise; and, therefore, that as her influence could be no longer used, the Princess Charlotte would gradually relax in the conditions which she had imposed upon her late suitor, and every obstacle be removed to their union. Little, however, did these politicians suspect that, independently of the objections which the Princess Charlotte entertained to a matrimonial alliance with the Prince of Orange, there was a "vestal fire" burning within, which was the secret source of her happiness, and which would have induced her to regard a union with any other object than with that whom she had secretly chosen for herself, with the most repulsive feelings.

The question, however, of the intention of the Princess of Wales leaving the country, was put beyond all doubt by some questions which Mr. Tierney put to Lord Castlereagh in the House of Commons, on the 30th of July; in which he stated, that a report was prevalent, that her Royal Highness had made an application, through his Majesty's ministers, for permission to return to the continent. Whether this was intended as a temporary visit to her brother, or a permanent residence abroad, he could not contemplate it without regret. There might be a reason, (which, however, he could not imagine without pain,) that might warrant the temporary absence of her Royal Highness from

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this country. He and an honorable friend of his (not then present) had been the only two members on that side of the House who had taken an active part in the proceedings respecting the increased income of her Royal Highness; but if, at the bottom of that proposition, there existed any arrangement savouring of an understanding that the public should be deemed to have paid the price of her Royal Highness's quitting this country, he solemnly protested that he had no hand in it.

Lord Castlereagh said, with respect to the honorable gentleman's questions, all that he knew was, that her Royal Highness had signified to his Majesty's ministers her intention of visiting the continent; and he was persuaded, that the House, in voting for the addition to the income of her Royal Highness, had no design of imprisoning her Royal Highness in this country, nor of preventing her from residing wherever her pleasure or convenience might induce her to take up her abode.

In reply, Mr. Tierney declared, that the step, which her Royal Highness was about to take, was against the direct advice of Mr. Whitbread, and of every one who had the interests of the Princess of Wales at heart.

The situation of the Princess Charlotte now became distressing in the highest degree. She was shortly to bid adieu to her mother; that fond and affectionate mother, who had watched over her early years with the most anxious solicitude;

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who had trained her in the ways of religion and of virtue; who, for her sake, had borne the most vile and cutting reproaches with unexampled patience and fortitude; and who was now doomed to seek for that happiness in another country which was denied to her in this. Wise, indeed, is that Power, which withholds from us a knowledge of futurity, and, in its infinite mercy, holds from our view those events which are concealed in the womb of time; and which, in their effects, dash to pieces the fragile structure of our earthly happiness. What would have been the agonizing feelings of the illustrious mother, had she conceived that the parting kiss, which she was then imprinting on the lips of her weeping daughter, was the last, last kiss on earth;—that the farewell which they were then uttering, was, indeed, a long, a last farewell! In a few months more the bosom, which was then beating with all the ardor of filial love, and which was then tumultuously rising with the sobs of grief—the bosom, on which the afflicted mother laid her head, and moistened with her tears, was, in a few months more, to be cold and motionless. The eye, in which a ray of love beamed through the crystalline drops which dimmed it, was soon to be closed for ever; and the motions of the heart, which was then beating with Nature's fond affections, were to be stilled in the silence of the grave. But how must the soul of the survivor have been harrowed, when the dreadful intelligence burst upon her, and the

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poignant reflection was superadded, that all this has taken place and she not present; that at the moment, perhaps, when her now sainted child was resigning her spirit into the hands which gave it, and with feeble tongue was uttering "Thy will be done!" she was in the midst of revelry and mirth, and looking fórward to the joys of to-morrow with anticipated delight *!

Some consolation might even now be imparted to the heart, grieving for the loss of England's most illustrious daughter, had the parting with her mother, the last in this world, taken place under more auspicious circumstances. It was a moment, in which the sternness of parental authority might have been softened, and every emotion of resentment stifled, in order to allow the sufferers the melancholy pleasure of mingling their tears in private, where the last farewell could have been whispered, without being exposed to the callous look of apathy, or to the counterfeit sympathy of the dissembling courtier.

But how different was the treatment which the Princess of Wales received on her writing to the

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* It is rather a singular coincidence, that since the above passage was written, intelligence has been received, that the Princess of Wales gave a fête in celebration of her name-day on the 4th of November, (the day of St. Charles) at Pesaro. A comic ballet was performed, in which the Princess danced the principal character, and on the following day, a superb dinner was to be given by her Royal Highness.

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minister, stating, that she intended to go to Cranbourne-Lodge to visit her daughter, and that she expected to be admitted;—an answer was sent, that the Princess Charlotte would be allowed to come to Connaught-House on the Saturday following. Accordingly, on that day, the Princess Charlotte came to town, not in that private manner by which the feelings of the daughter could be held sacred, on the point of bidding farewell to her mother, but with her ladies in waiting, in full attendance, whose tears, perhaps, also have flowed at a disappointment in dress or a compulsive detention from a ball; and not in her own private carriage, but in the Prince Regent's, with three of his own footmen as outriders. After having dined with her mother, she returned the same evening to Cranbourne-Lodge; and there, in secret, she gave vent to the tears which flowed at the recollection of the parting kiss of her mother, and at her own isolated situation. She was henceforth to be deprived of the only female to whom she could unfold, without reserve, the secrets of her bosom. But in her heart she for ever treasured the last injunction of her mother:—"Look not, my beloved Charlotte," she said, "for consolation under your afflictions from the hands of men; that is a mere temporary unsubstantial relief; it passeth away quickly like a shadow, leaving no trace of it behind. But let your appeal be always to your God; he hears the cries of the sufferer, and heals the

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wounds of the breaking heart: in prayer his Spirit will descend upon you, and, full of faith in his unchangeable goodness, you will reap a rich reward of earthly happiness."

Even in the parting scene one lonely beam of joy glistened in the fine blue eye of the Princess Charlotte, when she, in private, confided a letter to the care of her mother, to be delivered to an individual, who would open it with all the rapture of the lover, and who would hear from the lips of the mother, the expression of the continued attachment of her daughter.

It is not generally known that any interview took place on the continent between the Princess of Wales and Prince Leopold of Coburg; and, for the most obvious reasons, the circumstance was taken no notice of by some of the journals, and by others it was merely touched upon with that degree of delicacy which the subject required. It is, however, certain, that an interview did take place, and was attended with a high degree of satisfaction to all the parties interested.

On the day subsequently to the visit of the Princess Charlotte to Connaught-House, to take leave of her mother, Miss Mercer was permitted to go to Cranbourne-Lodge, and to remain with her Royal Highness until the following day.

The health of the Princess Charlotte continuing in a very precarious state, the necessary preparations were made for her immediate removal to the sea-side. Indeed, her indisposition was given

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out as the plea for her not attending the magnificent fête which was given by her Majesty at Frogmore, in honor of the Prince Regent's birth-day; but, as it was observed that her Royal Highness was well enough to take an airing for several hours in her carriage on the same morning, and visited her royal father and the Queen at the castle, the conclusions were thence drawn, that her not appearing at the fête must be ascribed to some other cause than that of indisposition; and, to those who possessed any insight into the real character of the Princess Charlotte, the solution of the question was not attended with much difficulty. The Princess Charlotte attached a very slight value to what are termed the pleasures of high life. She received no satisfaction from the cringing smile of the courtier, nor from the profuse adulation which the interested sycophant might lavish upon her. Her open, unsophisticated heart, alive to the dictates of truth, despised the unmeaning *verbiage* of the titled fool; and, in the fashionable grimaces of the effeminate coxcomb, she saw a degradation of the human character, and contemned the fluttering beings who practised them. It was the honest, blunt display of downright British worth that spoke to the heart of the Princess Charlotte; and the awkward salutation, and honest shake of the hand of an English farmer, were to her of higher value than the touch of the velvet hand of the essenced beau, or the dancing-school bow of the *petit-maitre*. The

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individual who thought to worm himself into the good graces of the Princess Charlotte by fulsome or unmerited adulation, mistook his aim most completely. In the vicinity of Cranbourne-Lodge was a poor widow, who had a numerous family, and, for those who could work, the Princess Charlotte found employment, and those who could not were entirely supported by her bounty. This act of charity was, in her presence, highly extolled, and some very inflated eulogiums were expressed on the occasion. She appeared not to pay much attention to them; but, the rhodomontade being completed, she addressed herself to the panegyrist, who was notorious for his parsimony, and said, "I am not in the least surprised at the extraordinary importance which you attach to a mere common act of charity, as, practically speaking, it falls so seldom under your knowledge; but, in future, tell me of my faults, that I may mend them; my virtues will always speak for themselves."

The Princess Charlotte was not one of those every-day characters, who seek relief to their real or imaginary afflictions, in the noise and turmoil of the ball-room, or who fly from reflection to the motley assemblies of fashionable life. That she had a deep and poignant grief rankling at her heart, was evident even to the casual observer, and was the natural consequence of the strength of her filial affection for her mother, who, being no longer allowed to enjoy the society of her

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daughter, was on the eve of expatriating herself, perhaps, for ever; for that grief, she found no alleviation in the pursuits of fashionable follies, but retired and secluded from the world, she found her consolation in the pages of the inspired writers, or in close communion with her God. As a proof of the general tendency of the thoughts of the Princess Charlotte, the following circumstance may be adduced as an ample testimony.

A clergyman of a dissenting establishment had obtained the honor of admission to the presence of the Princess Charlotte for the purpose of soliciting her patronage of a charitable institution. The Princess received him with the greatest sweetness and affability, and entered into familiar conversation with him; in the course of which she asked him his idea of a death-bed, and how to make it easy. The clergyman expressed some surprise, that her Royal Highness, who could have the benefit of much superior advice should consult him; to which she replied, that she had put the same questions to several persons; that she wished to collect different opinions, and that she had often made it the subject of conversation with her grandfather. She added, that she must ever feel greatly indebted to Lady Elgin for her pious instructions; that lady having been the first who had ever put the hymns of Dr. Watts into her hand, all of which she could repeat from memory.

The departure of the Princess of Wales from

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the country was fast approaching, and it was an event which could not be contemplated by her afflicted daughter without the most acute sensations of grief. In her last letter to Lord Liverpool, in which she announces her desire of going abroad, she complains of the mortifications which she has met with in this country ever since she entered it, assuaged only by the affectionate protection she received from his Majesty to the last hour of his mental intelligence; deprived of his countenance she had no tie left but her daughter, and her society she was no longer permitted to enjoy. In this letter, she offers to resign the rangership of Greenwich Park in favor of the Princess Charlotte; she wishes to keep her apartments in Kensington-Palace for a short time, and there are a few other requests, to all of which, a ready compliance was granted.

On the second of August, the Princess of Wales arrived at her house near Worthing, and the next evening she walked to that place, accompanied by her lady in waiting and attendants. She sat for nearly two hours on the beach; the moonbeams danced on the waves, the pleasure-boats glided at her feet, and at a distance lay at anchor the Jason frigate, which, in a few days, was to convey her to her natal shores. It was a scene at once solemn and sublime, and her Royal Highness appeared so lost in contemplation, that she heeded not the frequent admonitions of her attendants, warning her to retire from the beach

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on account of her health. On a sudden, she started up, and exclaimed, "Well! grief is unavailing when fate impels me." Throwing a shawl around her, she left the beach; but turning suddenly round, she threw a hasty glance over the ocean, and exclaiming, "'Tis a glorious sight," hastened home.

On the 9th, a great crowd was assembled on the Steyne at Worthing, to witness the departure of the Princess of Wales. She arrived at the Steyne hotel about half past four; when the Hon. Captain King, the commander of the Jason, not being ready to receive her on her arrival, she drove off with Lady Charlotte Lindsay, another lady, and Austin, her *protégé* boy, to South Lancing, situate about two miles from Worthing, apparently wishing to elude the people, who were waiting to see her embark. After she had left Worthing, Captain King appeared on the beach, got into a small boat, and about half way between the shore and the Jason, was met by his own barge, which proceeded to Lancing for the Princess; her female domestics were taken on board from Worthing. The Princess had one conspicuous article among her baggage, viz. a large tin case, on which was painted, in white letters, *Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, to be always with her.* Her Royal Highness had on a dark cloth pelisse, with large gold clasps, and a cap of velvet and green satin, of the Prussian hussar costume, with a green feather.

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She and her suite were conveyed to the barge in a small pony cart, driven by her own coachman. All the carriages and horsemen which had been at the beach at Worthing, and as many pedestrians as could, followed her Royal Highness to Lancing. When on board the barge, she kissed her hand to the females, who waved their handkerchiefs. The farewell was a silent one, seemingly as if it was feared the shouts might be misconstrued. On quitting, however, the English shore, she was so much affected, that she fainted in the arms of her attendants, and continued very low in spirits. Next day, the weather being very fine, she became gradually composed. On the 12th, as the ship passed the Texel, a royal salute was, at the request of the Princess, fired in honor of the Prince Regent's birth-day, and she drank his health after dinner. In the evening her Royal Highness ordered a ball, which she led off with Sir William Gell, and the dancing was kept up to a late hour. When she quitted the Jason, the yards were manned, a royal salute was fired, and the officers and crew gave her nine cheers. The Princess continued waving her hands towards the ship, until it was out of sight.

On the morning of the 16th, the Princess of Wales arrived at Hamburgh with her suite, under the name of the Countess of Wolfenbüttel. Every where during her passage, she

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was received by crowds of people, with all the attention and respect due to her illustrious rank.

The departure of the Princess Charlotte for Weymouth was at last definitively settled, and it accordingly took place on the 9th of September. On the 10th she arrived at Gloucester Lodge, Weymouth, and a great concourse of people was assembled on the Esplanade, who greeted the approach of her Royal Highness with loud cheerings, which she graciously returned with every mark of condescension.

Monday the 12th, was the day fixed upon by order of Henry Hayes Tozard, Esq., the mayor of Weymouth, to celebrate the arrival of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales to that favourite watering-place; and at an early hour, standards were displayed at the custom-house, Harvey's library, Esplanade, and on the shipping in the harbour. In the evening a general illumination took place, which was the most grand and brilliant scene of the kind ever witnessed at Weymouth.

On the 14th, the mayor, aldermen, and principal burgesses, waited upon her Royal Highness, and presented a loyal and dutiful address. Her Royal Highness very condescendingly conversed for a short time with the mayor and G. T. Steward, Esq., and made several inquiries relative to the local improvements of the place, and the situation of the island of Portland.

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The following is the address :—

" We, the mayor, aldermen, bailiffs, and principal burgesses of the borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, entreat permission to address to your Royal Highness our humble congratulations on your safe arrival here, and to express our earnest wishes for the re-establishment of your health.

" We regard the auspicious appearance of your Royal Highness amongst us, not only as a happy omen of the future prosperity of the town, but as a revival of the joyful sensations we formerly experienced on the visits of your august grandfather, the paternal sovereign of a grateful people.

" May the many public and private virtues which adorn with peculiar lustre the character of our revered monarch, shine with undiminished splendour in the persons of his illustrious descendants.

" Madam, we beg leave to assure your Royal Highness of our strenuous exertions to preserve peace and good order, and by every means in our power to anticipate your wishes."

Her Royal Highness very condescendingly replied :

" Gentlemen, the royal family have so repeatedly experienced the loyalty and good-will of the inhabitants of Weymouth, that they need no additional assurance of their affection and duty.

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"It will, however, I am sure, afford them very sincere satisfaction to find, that time and absence have produced no alteration whatever in their sentiments.

"To you, gentlemen, who have shown me this particular mark of attention, and have so kindly expressed your wishes for the restoration of my health, I feel more especially indebted; nor can I, on this occasion, omit my very sincere acknowledgments to all the inhabitants of this town, for the very flattering tokens of regard which they have universally shewn me, and which I consider as a proof of their undiminished attachment to my dear Father, and the rest of the Royal Family.

"Believe me, gentlemen, it will ever be my anxious wish to merit your good opinion."

On the Sunday following her Royal Highness, accompanied by the Countesses Rosslyn and Ilchester, Mrs. Campbell, the Misses Coates*, General Garth, and the Rev. Dr. Short, attended divine service at Melcombe church. The Rev. Mr. Gordon delivered a most excellent discourse from the following text of Scripture, 13th chap. 1 Corinthians, and part of the eighth verse, "Charity never faileth." The church was uncommonly crowded, and the oppressive heat and effects of its smallness were very much felt, owing

* These two highly accomplished ladies recently appointed to the Princess Charlotte's suite, are the daughters of John Coates, Esq., of Woodcote, the respected member for Shropshire.

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to this place of worship not being large enough to contain one half of the inhabitants, exclusively of the numerous visitors during the bathing season. How greatly conducive would it be, then, to the spiritual, as well as to the temporal interests of this public place, were the present church to be pulled down and rebuilt, or an episcopal chapel added.

The picturesque scenery in the vicinity of Weymouth afforded the highest gratification to the Princess Charlotte in her morning rides. Her favourite drive was to the beautiful village of Upway;—the romantic hills and downs in its vicinity were often paced by her in all the hilarity of youth;—and their salubrious air soon restored that bloom to her cheeks, of which a lingering illness had deprived them. Emancipated from the dull routine of a morning ride in Windsor-Park, in which the same unvaried scenery presented itself to her fancy, her spirit seemed to take an expanded range, and embrace those higher objects, which ultimately lead to the knowledge of all that is good and perfect in creation. From the simple, she rose, by regular gradations, to the sublime. The leaf which whirled at her feet was the subject of her study. The heavens, with its glittering worlds above, excited her wonder and admiration. Then, as her eye, "in a fine phrensy rolling, soared from earth to heaven," in enthusiastic rapture, she would exclaim—"Thou art, and wert, and shalt be, Father, Almighty, Incompre-

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hensible! By Thee the foundations of the earth were laid; Thou gavest to the stars their track, and to the suns their course; Thou reinest in the winds in their desolating fury, and to the waters of the ocean Thou hast affixed their bounds. Praised be thy name for ever!—Hallelujah!"

The Princess Charlotte was always particularly partial to rural scenery; and, during her morning excursions, she often alighted from her carriage, and walked to some distant cottage, where she would converse with the inhabitants, and especially with the children, with the utmost affability and condescension. But these visits were not the mere impulse of curiosity, nor were they prompted by a vain desire to impress upon the minds of the rustic gazers, by a haughty demeanor, a high idea of her importance. It was at the door of the poor but laborious peasant that this amiable Princess deigned to stop; she would listen to the tales of privation and of want, of accident or misfortune; and never did she leave the threshold of the door without innumerable blessings following her. Her's were not the gifts of ostentation, nor tendered with a view of being blazoned to the world. The receiver knew not the hand from which the blessing flowed, but in secret his prayers were offered for it, and the prayer of the grateful heart was never yet rejected.

One morning, during her stay at Weymouth, the Princess Charlotte took her morning excursion, and, having alighted from her carriage, she

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was proceeding across a field towards a cottage, when a little boy, about seven years old, came running along the path. On coming up to the Princess Charlotte, he inquired, in all the simplicity of youth,—"Have you seen my father?" "And pray, my boy," asked the Princess Charlotte, with a smile, "who is your father?" "Humph!" answered the little fellow, "I thought every body knew my father" Pleased with this trait of genuine simplicity, the Princess Charlotte asked—"Can you read, my boy?" "O yes!" answered the boy, "I can read the whole of St. Matthew in my Testament." "You have, then, got a Bible?" asked the Princess Charlotte. "We have one between us all," answered the boy, "but it is sadly torn and dog-eared." "And how many are there of you?" asked the Princess. "I have three sisters that can read," answered the boy, "and one brother that can't, for he was only born about six months ago." "There," said the Princess Charlotte, giving him a guinea, "take that to your parents, and tell them to buy each of you a Bible, and write in it, the gift of the Princess Charlotte." The boy looked at the guinea, then at the Princess, and ran off with all possible speed towards his home.

Would the Princess Charlotte, at that moment, have exchanged her feelings for any of those which are derived from the inane and empty pleasures of fashionable life? the former shed over the heart a sweet and pleasing serenity, the latter

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are accompanied with remorse, regret, and ruin. But the mind of the Princess Charlotte had been moulded according to the finest model; it was no coarse, no unfinished piece of Nature's workmanship, "for it was a ray that beams for ever."

There is a bloom that never fades,
A rose no storm can sever;
Beyond the tulip's gaudy shade,
A ray that beams for ever.

There is a charm surpassing art,
That speaks in ev'ry feature;
That twines around the feeling heart,
It is thy charm, O Nature.

Then, stranger, if thou fain wouldst find
The rose, no storm can sever;
Go seek it, stranger, in the mind,
The ray that beams for ever.

Her Royal Highness having often expressed a wish to visit the Portland Island, a day on which the weather was favorable was chosen for the excursion. The wind was scant, and the voyage consequently tedious, but the Princess Charlotte appeared to dwell upon the scenery around her with uncommon delight. On her right, the finely-wooded hills of Dorsetshire, dipped in the blue tints of distance, lay stretching along, till lost to the vision by some far-distant promontory, throwing a faint streak along the horizon; and on her left lay, in majestic stillness, the multitudinous ocean, studded with the proud bulwarks of the nation,

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and the adventurous merchantmen, conveying the produce of the genius of her country to distant climes. It was a sight, of which the presumptive heiress to the throne had reason to be proud. At that moment the high feelings of the patriot, unmixed with the love of power, beat in her bosom; she exulted in the honor and the glory of her country, and prayed that it might be her lot to bequeath them as she found them—without a spot or tarnish.

On her arrival on the island, she expressed her surprise at the immense mass of barren rock, which seems only to be placed there as an object on which the waves may vent their fury, and as a grave to the mariner. Although the local affection in her knee would not permit her to extend her researches far into the island, yet, by perseverance, she gained an eminence, from which a most glorious view presented itself to her vision. She was going too near the verge of the rocks, which presented a high perpendicular face to the ocean, when one of her ladies, alarmed at her boldness, implored her to go no further; she replied, in the most significant manner "I wish every one standing on the brink of destruction could retrace their steps as easily as I can."

On the particular places being pointed out to her Royal Highness, where the most melancholy and fatal shipwrecks have occurred, particularly the Halsewell and Abergavenny East Indiamen, she expressed a wish to know all the particulars

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of those disastrous events, especially of the former, which was attended with such deeply-afflicting circumstances. The narrator could, however, merely affirm that such a shipwreck had taken place, and that almost every soul on board had perished; but the particulars of the shipwreck had been long erased from his memory. "True," said her Royal Highness, "so it is; the sufferings of the dead are forgotten; and that which ought to be continually recited, as an awful lesson of the tremendous power of the Almighty, is lost in the vortex of human affairs, and preserved only in the memory of the father, the brother, the wife, the sister, or the friend."—Then, turning to the captain of her yacht, she said—"Yours is the noblest profession in the world; but that ocean is your grave!" "I wish not a sweeter, your Royal Highness," said the captain. "It is nevertheless my wish," said her Royal Highness, "that you may never experience it."

It was not until after many persuasive arguments were used, that her Royal Highness was induced to quit the island. She felt, she said, such a consciousness of her safety, when standing upon that rock, which, for ages unknown, had braved the violence of the waves, and on which they had broken, urged by the whirlwind's power, only to retire in foaming impotency.

The tide being against them, the Royal party did not arrive at Gloucester-Lodge until late in the evening. As the Princess Charlotte was

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sitting upon the quarter-deck, in pleasing contemplation at the animating scene before her, she repeated the following beautiful lines:—

Now shooting o'er the flood his fervid blaze,
The red-brown'd Sun withdraws his beamy rays;
Safe in the bay, the crew forget their cares,
And peaceful rest their wearied strength repairs;
Calm Twilight now his drowsy mantle spreads,
And shade on shade the gloom still deep'ning sheds;
The full orb'd Moon forsakes her wat'ry cave,
And lifts her lovely head above the wave;
The snowy splendors of her modest ray,
Stream o'er the glittering waves and quiv'ring play
Around her. Glittering on the heaven's arch'd brow,
Unnumber'd stars enclos'd in azure glow;
Quick as the dew-drops of the rosy dawn,
Or May flowers crowding on the daisy lawn.
The canvass whitens in the silvery beam,
And with a paler red, the pendants gleam;
The masts' tall shadows tremble o'er the deep,
The peaceful winds a holy silence keep;
The watchman's carol, echo'd from the prows,
Alone at times awakes the still repose.

In the environs of Weymouth, is situated Abbotsbury Castle, the residence of the dowager Countess of Ilchester. The romantic sites, so beautifully dispersed around this mansion, added to an extensive marine prospect, rendered the visit to it peculiarly pleasing to the Princess Charlotte. The politeness and attention of the noble possessor of the domain to this illustrious daughter of royalty, increased the local attractions of the place; and she soon became

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acquainted with the whole history of Abbotsbury, which has been handed down by oral or traditionary testimony. The village of Abbotsbury formerly belonged to a monastery of monks, of the Benedictine order, who were lords of the manor, and who accordingly enjoyed all the privileges and immunities of the whole estate. Tradition informs us, that the monks of Abbotsbury, like all the monks in other parts of the world, had no decided objection to good living; and, as a fine fresh turbot or a salmon was peculiarly acceptable to the palates of these austere and self-denying gentlemen, the fishermen on the estate were obliged to furnish the monastery with the *first caught* fish every morning, for which they were to receive an *adequate* price; which, however, was to be regulated by the monks themselves. The fishermen, therefore, setting aside any attempt to impugn the liberality of the monks, came off very often *minus* in their receipts. It was then discovered by a shrewd and penetrating head, that in perfect character with the legal transactions of the present day, a word had been inserted in their written tenures, on which a notable quibble might be raised; and, accordingly, one morning three small pilchards were sent to the monastery. This happened on a Friday, when, by the tenets of their religion, nothing but fish could be allowed to pass their monkish throats. The monastery was in an uproar, and an explanation

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of the motive for this unparalleled insult upon the holy brotherhood was instantly demanded. It was shrewdly and subtlely answered on the part of the fishermen, that by the strict letter of their conditions, they were bound to deliver only the *first caught*, and they had performed those conditions on sending the three pilchards. The monks saw that the fishermen had them completely in their net; and, as the loss of a dinner was to them of very serious consequence, it was definitively settled to the satisfaction of all parties, that the monastery should pay 3*d.* a lb. for the prime fish of that morning's catching; and, that the fishermen on their side, should be obliged to produce the said fish every morning to the satisfaction of the monks. The Abbotsbury estate falling into the Ilchester family, this old custom was retained, and the fishermen of Abbotsbury are obliged at this day to deliver their fish at the castle, at 3*d. per* lb.

Her Royal Highness was very much gratified with a view of the famous decoy at Abbotsbury, and expressed a wish to see the manner in which the traitorous fowls lured their fellow-creatures to destruction. She had some knowledge, she said, of the manner in which it was performed in human life, and she supposed the means were the same, viz., cunning, deceit, and misplaced confidence; the only difference she could trace in them was, that the fowl was rendered deceitful by tuition, the men by nature.

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The complaint in the knee of her Royal Highness, although in a degree better than on her arrival at Weymouth, yet, as it did not assume that highly favourable appearance, from which an early cure might be anticipated, Mr. Keate was sent from town for the purpose of being in constant attendance upon her Royal Highness.

On the 14th, the Princess and the chief of her establishment attended divine service at Melcombe church. The Rev. Mr. Gorton preached from the third chapter of Philippians, and the fourteenth verse; and, on the following day, the weather being delightful, with gentle breezes, her Royal Highness and suite proceeded in the royal barge, and enjoyed a most pleasant sail towards St. Albans for many hours; a royal salute was fired, and the yards manned, the royal standard was hoisted, and every complimentary honor was shown to her Royal Highness while on board. The Griper sloop of war, Captain M'Meekan, and the Greyhound revenue cutter, Captain Wilkinson, were getting under weigh, and returned the salute, affording much gratification to a large concourse of people assembled on the pier, who loudly cheered her Royal Highness as she passed. At four o'clock the Princess landed under a royal salute from both men of war; the concourse of spectators on the quay received her Royal Highness with loud acclamations, which she noticed with all the condescension and affability for which she was so highly and justly

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admired. The band of the 13th light dragoons striking up "God save the King" at the moment of her landing, and the band of the 39th foot playing at the same time "Rule Britannia," produced an indescribable effect.

Lulworth Castle, the seat of Thomas Weld, Esq., was the next object of her Royal Highness's attention. From this place our most gracious Monarch and the Royal Family took their first sea trip in the Southampton frigate, the third of August 1789; and, from its picturesque situation, it has always held forth peculiar attractions to the visitors of Weymouth. It was the most anxious wish of her Royal Highness to visit that beautiful edifice, and it was not long before her wish was accomplished. Her Royal Highness was accompanied in this excursion by the Rev. Dr. Short, the Countesses of Rosslyn and Ilchester, Lady Augusta Greville, Mrs. Campbell, and the Misses Coates. To notice the particular marks of loyalty and attachment with which the royal party were greeted by the late much lamented Mr. Weld, is a tribute of respect due to the memory of that most truly revered character: they were not received with the obsequious bow of the courtier, nor with the dissembling smile of the *haughty* peer, but with the cordial, open, and generous welcome of the British commoner. It was the welcome of the heart untainted by personal vanity or sordid interests, and it met with a responsive feeling in the breast of the

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Princess Charlotte. She was by no means a tyro in appreciating the sterling value of the human character: she knew that a coarse incrustation conceals the brilliancy of the diamond, and that a rough exterior often veils a heart in which reside the most splendid virtues of our nature. The road to her esteem was by a practical display of candour, openness, sincerity, and truth. She despised the dissimulating arts of the sycophant; and considered that person to offer a direct insult to her understanding, who, on any particular occasion, would lavish his encomiums upon her. The attentions which her Royal Highness received at Lulworth, were those of pure, unadulterated integrity of heart; and, on her return to the King's Lodge in the evening, her Royal Highness was heard to express herself in the highest terms of satisfaction at the manner in which she had been received.

On the anniversary of the jubilee, the day was observed by her Royal Highness with every testimony of regard. She directed a sum of money to be distributed amongst the poor; and to a number of children she gave Bibles, and some of the moral tales of the Religious Tract Society: nor did she forget her establishment at Bognor, which was founded by herself at the jubilee; the annual donation was transmitted, with a flattering promise of her future support and patronage.

In the evening, her Royal Highness invited a

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party of nobility at the King's Lodge, to witness an elegant display of fireworks, with an emblematical device of our most gracious Sovereign. One of the attractions of the evening was the celebrated Italian minstrel, Signor Rivolta, who, in an extraordinary manner, performed a concert on eight instruments at one time, with which her Royal Highness was highly gratified, and signified her approbation of his merits in the most flattering terms.

On the 4th of November the Princess Charlotte, with a full retinue, proceeded to Corfe Castle, the property of Henry Bankes, Esq., to view the antiquities of a place which makes so conspicuous a figure in the history of the Saxon heptarchy.

The ponderous fragments of disjointed walls, which seem ready to quit their apparently inadequate holds, engaged the serious attention of her Royal Highness, and filled her mind with astonishment. She stood for some time contemplating the scattered fragments of this once magnificent fortress; the inclined position of the towers, and the loftiness of this extensive and stupendous ruin. Many a memento of former times lay dispersed around her; and, in the eloquence of silent admonition, spoke to her of the instability of human objects, and of human grandeur. A vast concourse of persons assembled at the castle to gratify themselves with a sight of this amiable branch of the Royal Family, and they testified their attachment by loud acclamations, which produced a very

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sensible and visible effect on the mind and feelings of her Royal Highness.

A few days previously to the departure of her Royal Highness from Weymouth, she took her last marine excursion on board the Zephyr; the weather being delightful, the vessel stood some way out to sea, and it was late in the evening before the royal party reached the shore. The ocean presented one vast glassy surface, for not a ripple played upon the waters,

> The wind was hush'd,
> And to the beach each slowly-lifted wave
> Creeping with silver curl, just kiss'd the shore,
> And slept in silence.

At a distance on "the breast of the billow" blazed the beacon's fire, shooting its tremulous light across the ocean; and then arose in the memory of the Princess Charlotte the lines of the poet:—

> The scene was more beautiful far to my eye,
> Than if day, in its pride had array'd it;
> The land breeze blew mild, and the azure-arch'd sky,
> Look'd pure as the Spirit that made it.
> The murmur rose soft, as I silently gaz'd
> On the shadowy waves' playful motion;
> On the dim distant isle, till the beacon-fire blaz'd,
> Like a star in the midst of the ocean.
>
> No longer the joy of the sailor-boy's breast,
> Was heard in his wildly-breath'd numbers;
> The sea-bird had flown to her wave-girdled nest,
> The fisherman sunk to his slumbers.

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One moment I look'd from the hill's gentle slope,
All hush'd was the billow's commotion;
And thought that the beacon look'd lovely as Hope,
That star of life's tremulous ocean.

The time is long past, and the scene is afar,
Yet when my head rests on its pillow;
Will Memory sometimes rekindle the star
That blaz'd on the breast of the billow?
In life's closing hour, when the trembling soul flies,
And death stills the heart's last emotion;
O then may the seraph of mercy arise,
Like a star, on eternity's ocean.

The several trips in his Majesty's ship Zephyr, which her Royal Highness made to sea, were highly beneficial to the re-establishment of her health, as they tended to invigorate her nervous system, which had been severely relaxed by the particular circumstances in which she had been placed, and the hard trials which she had lately undergone. She reaped also an essential benefit from the use of the sea-bath, which she used on alternate days, and her approaching convalescence having been announced by her medical attendants, her departure from Weymouth was finally determined on.

On the 15th, her Royal Highness attended by the Countesses of Ilchester and Rosslyn, with General Garth, and the rest of her suite, arrived at Salisbury, on her way from Weymouth to Cranbourne-Lodge, and was received at his palace by the Lord Bishop of the diocese. In

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the evening, her Royal Highness was entertained with a select vocal concert. On the following morning, attended by the Dean and Canons, she visited the cathedral, and minutely inspected every part of that beautiful edifice. She examined particularly the ancient monuments, placed between the pillars of the two grand transepts, and expressed herself highly pleased with the perfect state of the figures. "The mutilation of the monumental figures," she said, "in Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's, is a national disgrace. Other objects, she conceived, might be found, on which vice or mischief might employ itself, than the monuments of the dead. Is it true," she asked, turning to one of her attendants, "that the monument of Sir Isaac Newton in Westminster Abbey is much defaced?" On being answered in the affirmative, she said, in a tone of indignation, "The sun of science must never have irradiated the mind of that being, who mutilated his monument, or he would not even have approached it without reverence, much less have defaced it."

On the same day, her Royal Highness drove over to Wilton, the seat of the Earl of Pembroke; and was highly gratified with a view of his lordship's unique collection of statues and pictures. Her Royal Highness partook of a cold collation.

On the 17th, after inspecting and purchasing some specimens of the cloth manufactory, her Royal Highness left Salisbury for Cranbourne-

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Lodge, expressing herself highly gratified by her visit and reception.

In the afternoon of the 19th, the Princess Charlotte arrived at Cranbourne-Lodge; and on the following day paid her respects to her royal grandmother the Queen, and her aunts the Princesses.

The meeting, on the 23d, between the Prince Regent and his royal Daughter, was a gratifying display of parental affection on the one side, and of filial love on the other. His Royal Highness staid about two hours, and then went to the Castle.

On Christmas-day, the Princess Charlotte, after breakfast, drove to Windsor in a coach and four, attended by the Countesses of Ilchester and Rosslyn, for the purpose of attending divine service at St. George's Chapel; and thither, soon after her arrival, her Royal Highness accompanied the Queen, the Princesses, and their royal suites. After the service, according to annual custom, they received the sacrament, which was administered to the royal party by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Salisbury, and the Dean of Windsor.

The birth-day of her Royal Highness was celebrated at Windsor, for the first time, on the 7th of January 1815. In the morning the Princesses went to Cranbourne-Lodge to compliment their royal niece on the return of the day; and, at the same time, presented her with presents, as tokens

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of their affection. Her Majesty gave an entertainment at her house at Frogmore on the occasion; at which her Royal Highness received congratulations from the Queen, the other branches of the Royal Family, and the assemblage of nobility and persons of distinction, who had the honor of being invited on the occasion. The evening was spent in music and other amusements, and the party did not leave Frogmore until a late hour.

The natal day of the Princess Charlotte was celebrated at Brighton by her august Father, with every possible mark of distinction. A numerous party of nobility were entertained at the Pavilion to dinner, and in the evening the number was considerably increased. A concert succeeded to the inspiring hospitalities of the table, the melodies of which were predominant until after midnight.

On the occasion of her Majesty's birth-day a splendid entertainment was given by the Queen at Frogmore, at which the Princess Charlotte of Wales was present. Her Royal Highness, who had attained a very great proficiency in music, gave a great proof of her skill and execution in the performance of a concerto on the grand piano-forte, accompanied on the violoncello by General Taylor, and on the violin by the honorable General Upton. A grand concert was performed by her Majesty's band, in their full and state uniforms. The concert finished at eleven, when

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her Royal Highness took her departure for Cranbourne-Lodge.

During the three succeeding months, the life of the Princess Charlotte presented a dull uniformity of action. The public reports exhibited no other incident than a drive to Windsor, a ride in the park, a visit from the Queen and the Princesses, a concert of sacred music in the evening; and, now and then, a visit to the opera or the theatre. It was not, however, in the glare of public life that the eminent virtues of the Princess Charlotte displayed themselves, but it was in the more gratifying and pleasing pursuits which occupy the hours of a domesticated circle. She found more delight in the classification of her flowers, than in the fatiguing and insignificant ceremonies of the ball-room; and the still small voice of gratitude was more pleasing to her ear, than all the pompous adulations of the courtier.

It conveys, however, the most pleasing reflection to the mind, and imparts a beautiful finish to the character of the Princess Charlotte, that no prospect of worldly pleasure, no gratification arising from fashionable pursuits, no enjoyments springing from luxury and dissipation, could divert her mind from a strict and regular performance of her religious duties. Accordingly, on every sabbath we beheld her repairing to church, and by her precepts and example reclaiming many a wanderer from a total neglect of and inattention to public devotion. On a sabbath

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evening, whilst the jaded votary of fashion was stretching her listless length upon the sofa, prosing over a love-sick novel, or gratifying a vitiated taste by the perusal of the libidinous madrigals of a Moore, this illustrious female, the Princess Charlotte, was assembling her attendants around her, and imparting to them the genuine principles of religious knowledge from the sermons of a Blair, an Alison, or a Zollikofer. She would close the evening with a beautiful anthem, and retire to rest, to enjoy that repose which is ever the attendant on an approving conscience.

On the 6th of February, the Princess Charlotte gave the first dinner to the Queen and the Princesses since her residence at Cranbourne-Lodge. A select party was invited to meet her illustrious guests; and the assiduities and attentions, which she displayed with the greatest affability to every individual, added in no inconsiderable degree to the general happiness of the party.

It being found necessary that Cranbourne-Lodge should undergo a complete repair, the Princess Charlotte removed from that residence on the 11th of April, and took up her abode at Carlton-House. The drawing-room, which was held by the Queen on the 13th, was graced by the presence of the Princess Charlotte, who arrived early, and dressed in the palace. Her general appearance excited the admiration of the whole court.

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The first Sunday after her arrival at Carlton-House, her Royal Highness attended divine service at the Chapel Royal, St. James's. Her Royal Highness sat in the royal closet, attended by the lady in waiting. The service was read by Dr. Fly; the sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Leysal. The anthem was "O how amiable!" by Dr. Green.

In this situation of affairs with the Princess Charlotte in England, her illustrious mother had collected around her, as in one focus, all the literary and scientific men in the vicinity of Geneva; but this would not have been worthy of notice, had not one illustrious female been chosen by the Princess of Wales as her companion, with whose family her daughter was soon to be allied by marriage. This female was the sister of Prince Leopold of Saxe Coburg Saalfeld, and married to the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia, but separated from her husband on account of his brutal and savage treatment*. Through the me-

* During a temporary residence at St. Petersburgh, I had frequent opportunities of obtaining an insight into the character of the Archduke Constantine, and am not in the least surprised at a tender and amiable female not being able to live with him. He is the arch-prototype of his father, Paul, in full possession of all his vices, without any of his virtues to counterbalance them. Tyrannical in the highest degree, he exacts the most degrading submission from others; and, woe to the individual who dares to resist his authority. The charms of his illustrious consort made, perhaps, some impression on his obdurate heart; but his alliance with her arose not from a respect for her virtues, nor from any attachment

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dium of the archduchess, frequent intelligence was received by the Princess of Wales of her daughter, independently of the regular correspondence which was maintained between them; and the Princess Charlotte, on the other hand, by means of the correspondence which she held with the object of her affections, often obtained some intelligence of her mother, which, from the most obvious reasons, would not have been communicated through the regular channel.

It was a pleasing consolation to the heart of the Princess Charlotte, when she reflected that her mother enjoyed the society of an amiable and sympathizing individual, who could enter into her sorrows, and with whom she could converse without restraint on those topics which were nearest to her heart. At a distance from our country, the sound of our native language conveys an unspeakable charm; but doubly grateful is it, when in a foreign land, we meet with an individual, whose interests are the same,

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to the comforts of the matrimonial state. His soul was incapable of the refinements of love; and as to the exercise of that delicacy which is due to the tender and gentle character of the female sex, he never knew it. Bred in voluptuousness, and nursed in every species of profligacy, the gratification of his senses is his study; nor is the criminality of the means by which it is obtained, ever taken into his consideration. A virtuous female could not live with such a being; and the return of his injured consort to her family, was her restoration to that happiness of which her unfortunate alliance had deprived her.

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and to whom we can unbosom ourselves without reserve, with the confidence of a brother or a friend. It cannot, therefore, be a matter of surprise that the sister of her future son-in-law was the favourite associate of the Princess of Wales; and, as far as the influence of persons at that distance could extend, every mean was adopted to bring the intended union to a happy issue.

On the arrival of the Duke and Duchess of Orleans in this country, they paid their first visit to her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, on Saturday the 29th of May. The Duchess was received by General Garth, the Princess's principal attendant in waiting, who conducted the Duchess to the Princess's drawing-room, where the Duchess remained with the Princess about half an hour. In the evening the Princess Charlotte honored the opera with her presence for the first time, attended by the Countess of Ilchester and Miss Coates. On the following day her Royal Highness returned the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Orleans, and remained with them upwards of two hours.

On the 4th of May the Queen held a drawing-room at the Queen's Palace, St. James's, for the second time this season, which was very numerously and splendidly attended. The Princess Charlotte of Wales went in state with two carriages, and was received with all the high distinctions due to her rank. Her dress on this occasion was exquisitely beautiful. Gold lama

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and white draperies over a petticoat of rich white satin, elegantly supported with tassels of brilliant gold; beneath the draperies a trimming of superb blond lace, headed with a wreath of rich white satin and gold twisted trimming; train of rich figured white satin, body elegantly trimmed with rich gold and blond lace; head-dress, plume of ostrich feathers, with a beautiful diadem of brilliants; necklace and ear-rings of diamonds.

The first evening party which the Princess Charlotte gave at Carlton-House, was on the 29th of May; and, it was during her temporary residence in Carlton-House, that her Royal Highness may be said to have entered more deeply into the routine of the high and fashionable circles, than at any other period of her life. The continual round of visits which she was receiving and paying; the forms and ceremonies, to the performance of which she must necessarily accustom herself; and the sudden change from a state of comparative independence, to that of a strict adherence to all the punctilios of a court; and her total estrangement from those pursuits to which she had habituated herself, tended in no small degree to excite a desire in her breast for a return to her country residence; especially as the season of the year offered those rational enjoyments which could not be tasted in the splendor of a town residence.

The death of the Duke of Brunswick threw a temporary gloom over the Royal Family of

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England, and gave a check to any participation in those pleasures which they were in the general habit of resorting to. The Princess Charlotte did not appear in public for many days, and the grief she felt at the loss of so near a relative was that of the heart, not that of outward show.

An arrangement had been made for her Royal Highness to return to Cranbourne-Lodge; but owing to some symptoms of her former indisposition appearing in her Royal Highness, that arrangement was countermanded, and it was determined that she should proceed direct from London to Weymouth. Her Royal Highness was to stop a short time with the Queen and Princesses at Windsor; and thence proceed to Salisbury, where she was to sleep at the Bishop's house, and arrive at Weymouth in the evening of the following day.

Accordingly, on the 26th of July, her Royal Highness left Carlton-House in an open carriage, and was attended by the Countess of Ilchester, and Colonel Adenbroke. A close coach and four followed, in which were the Reverend Dr. Short, her Royal Highness's sub-preceptor and chaplain, and Mrs. Campbell; and a chariot and four followed, in which were her Royal Highness's principal page, and two female domestics. On the Thursday following, her Royal Highness entered the town of Weymouth, amidst the acclamations of thousands, who had, for many hours been waiting to greet her on her second visit to that dis-

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tinguished watering-place. In the evening there was a general illumination.

The second visit to Weymouth, although highly conducive to the establishment of the health of the Princess Charlotte, was not accompanied with that high degree of pleasure which she experienced during her former visit. The scenery was no longer new to her, and the memorable objects in the vicinity had lost the charms of novelty. Her inquiring mind had on a previous occasion, investigated every circumstance connected with those objects, in their minutest points, and little now remained on which her mental energies could be exercised. There were, however, some events, the recollection of which was attended with the most gratifying feelings. The pensioners, who had formerly subsisted on her bounty; the orphans, for whom she had provided a home; the widowed and the aged, who, by her charity, had found an asylum from want and indigence; these were objects which again presented themselves to her eye, and in the effusions of their gratitude, she reaped the richest reward which a heart like hers could know. But it was not only to the indigent and distressed of Weymouth, that the aid of this illustrious female was proffered; for the following act will testify, that in whatever quarter want and necessity presented themselves, there was her Royal Highness prepared to tender her relief.

The Lord Bishop of Salisbury having informed

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her Royal Highness, that many weavers of that city were out of employ, she immediately issued her commands that an order should be sent to Messrs. Stevens and Blackmore of Salisbury for a large quantity of flannels to be immediately manufactured, and sent down to Weymouth for the use of the poor. Thus this truly Christian Princess gave employment to the suffering and distressed manufacturer, and at the same time was providing raiment for the naked.—She has her reward!

It was during this visit to Weymouth, that her Royal Highness displayed one of those distinguishing traits of character, which, at various periods of her life, have rendered her so conspicuously great, and on which the expectations of the nation were founded, in regard to the excellence and virtues of its future Queen. The attachment of the Princess Charlotte to marine excursions, had since her former visit to Weymouth, suffered no abatement, and every opportunity was embraced by which her inclination could be gratified. Her Royal Highness was one day at sea in her yacht, when the Leviathan of 74 guns, being under sail, brought to, and fired a salute to the royal standard flying from the yacht. The Leviathan was commanded by Captain Nixon, who immediately rowed on board the yacht, to pay his respects to her Royal Highness. The Princess received him on deck; and the usual ceremonies being gone through,

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she expressed herself highly pleased with the appearance of the man-of-war, and intimated a wish to go on board. Some objections to this step were urged by the Bishop of Salisbury, then standing close to her, who was fearful that her Father might express his displeasure at her going upon the sea, which was then in a rough state, in an open boat. To this her Royal Highness answered, " Queen Elizabeth took great delight in her navy, and she never entertained any fear of going on board a man-of-war in an open boat, in whatever state the sea might be; why then should I?" Turning to Captain Nixon, she said, " Have the goodness to receive me into your barge, and let me be rowed on board the Leviathan, for I am not only desirous, but determined to inspect her." As her Royal Highness appeared resolute, and as it was well known that a resolution, once formed by her, was tantamount to the actual execution of it, the necessary preparations were made; and her Royal Highness was handed into Captain Nixon's barge, followed by the worthy Bishop and her two ladies in attendance. The party had been scarcely seated, when the spray of a wave dashed into their faces, which, from the ludicrous gestures of her ladies, excited the mirth of her Royal Highness. On coming alongside the Leviathan, the yards were instantly manned, and a chair of state was let down to hoist her Royal Highness on board. To this, however, she objected, saying,

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"I prefer going up in the manner that a seaman does. Captain Nixon, you will be kind enough to take care of my clothes; and, when I am on deck, then the chair may be let down for the remainder of the party." Her Royal Highness ascended with an agility which proved a source of great delight and astonishment to the whole crew. The royal suite being upon deck, the ship's officers were severally introduced; and the freedom with which her Royal Highness returned their salutations was highly pleasing and gratifying to the gallant fellows who were the objects of it. The surprise of her Royal Highness was great at the space and strength of the ship, and she exclaimed, "Well may such noble structures be called the *wooden walls of Old England!*" She then told Captain Nixon, that she would not be satisfied with an introduction to his state cabin only, but that she was anxious to see every part of his ship between decks, and even below. Accordingly, Captain Nixon accompanied her Royal Highness over every part of the ship, and she inspected not only the births, but the cockpit, powder-magazine, store-holds, &c.; and, on her return upon deck, she expressed her thanks to Captain Nixon and his attendant officers in the most gracious terms, assuring them, that they had afforded her an exhibition of more interest to her mind, than any she had hitherto beheld. The Princess, having presented a purse to Captain Nixon, desiring him to apply it for the benefit of the crew,

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as a token of her respect for them, descended as she rose, under a royal salute, and the still more gratifying cheers of a British man-of-war.

The circumstances of this occurrence were no sooner made public, than a two-fold accusation was brought by some prejudiced and illiberal persons against the Princess Charlotte, of which it requires only a slight knowledge of her character, to establish the invalidity. In the first place, she was accused of wantonly rendering the venerable Bishop ridiculous in the eyes of a whole ship's crew, by her masculine exertions in mounting the ship's side, and with a sneer directing at the same time that the chair should be let down for the Bishop.—Now, there is no truth whatever in the statement, that her Royal Highness mentioned the Bishop in that manner, so as to render him an object of ridicule; on the contrary, she never mentioned the Bishop at all, but merely directed that the chair might be let down for the accommodation of the remainder of the party. Those persons must possess a very circumscribed acquaintance with the real character of the Princess Charlotte, who could attribute to her the slightest levity of expression, or the most distant inuendo, which might tend to degrade the clerical character; and especially, the professional character of an individual, whom she respected for his virtues, whom she admired as a Christian, whom she extolled as the watchful shepherd of his flock, and to whom she was indebted for instruc-

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tion in those grand and essential points of our religion, which are the basis of our happiness here, and the foundation of our hopes of a life hereafter. It suits the purposes of certain individuals to misrepresent facts, in order that they may chime in with their own perverted notion of things, thereby utterly mistaking the character of the individual whose likeness they pretend to portray; and attributing to that individual a particular line of conduct, which they, under similar circumstances, would themselves pursue. The individual, who had taken upon himself the important functions of a teacher of the Gospel of our blessed Saviour, and who had performed the duties of those functions with becoming zeal and fidelity, was the last in the whole range of human characters, which by the Princess Charlotte would have been turned into ridicule; and, a spirit of indignation naturally arises at those base and insidious attempts that were made, shortly after the above occurrence, of rendering the venerable prelate ridiculous in the eyes of the public, at the entire expense of the Princess Charlotte of Wales.

The second charge against her Royal Highness was,—that climbing up the side of the ship, in the manner performed by her, was a proof of a masculine spirit, inconsistent with the delicacy of the female character, and the dignity of a princess.—To those who depreciate the great luminary of heaven, because some few spots appear upon its surface, at the same time that they know not

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why nor wherefore they are there; this accusation is, no doubt, in perfect consistency with their general character. That any action which borders upon the eccentric, or which digresses in the slightest degree from the common routine of ordinary action, should, to their warped and distorted fancy, appear as a departure from the established rules of propriety, and, consequently, amenable to their censure, is the natural result of the depravity of their understanding, and an undeniable proof of the malicious inclination of their hearts. The parallel has been drawn between this supposed masculine act of her Royal Highness, and the masculine acts of Queen Elizabeth; and, in this one instance, the parallel will hold good. The former, in ascending the ship like a sailor, paid a noble compliment to the gallant men, who by their valour had saved the country; it was an act of condescension on the Princess's part which endeared her to the whole crew of the Leviathan; and, had they, at that moment, been called into battle, their arms would have been nerved with triple strength in defence of the throne, which she was one day destined to adorn. All personal considerations vanished in her mind, and impelled by the noble ardour of her nature, she identified herself with the character of the sailor; and it is a character of which every British monarch has reason to be proud. With Queen Elizabeth, her fleet was going into battle; her presence in the midst of her sailors served

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to animate their hearts; and the remembrance of the charge which was addressed to them by their sovereign, standing with the helm of the ship in her hand, supported them through the arduous conflict, and saved the English flag from humiliation, and the country from the invasion of a despotic and bigoted foe. To complete the parallel, however, the fastidious censurers of the Princess Charlotte should have made her, like Queen Elizabeth, previously to her going on board, take a hearty breakfast of beef-steaks, with a pint of potent ale; and then her masculine habits would have been confirmed beyond the possibility of a refutation on the part of the future historian of her life.

On Christmas-day the Princess Charlotte heard divine service in the palace. The Bishop of Salisbury administered the holy sacrament on the occasion. Dr. Baillie arrived from town, and, after visiting her Royal Highness, returned the same evening to London, leaving her Royal Highness under the care of Dr. Reddam, of the Royal Charlotte yacht, who had the honor of attending her Royal Highness during her indisposition.

The Princess Charlotte left Weymouth on the 1st of January, 1816; and, after sleeping that night at the Bishop's palace at Salisbury, arrived on the following day at Cranbourne-Lodge.

The prayers and blessings of all the inhabitants of Weymouth followed her Royal Highness; for, during her long stay at that place, she completely

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ingratiated herself with every person, who could appreciate either dignity of conduct or suavity of manners; and the continuance of her health was prayed for with all the fervor of the most grateful heart.

On the arrival of the Princess Charlotte at Cranbourne-Lodge, she was visited by the Queen and the Princesses, whom she received in the most affectionate manner, and conducted them over the Lodge to view the repairs, alterations, and improvements, which had taken place during her absence at Weymouth. Her Royal Highness, although recovered from her indisposition, was much reduced, and looked very thin.

The Queen and the Princesses having notified their intention of paying the Prince Regent a visit at the Pavilion at Brighton, the Princess Charlotte was invited to accompany them. The 6th of January was fixed for the departure of the royal visitors; and, on the preceding evening, a select party was invited to Windsor Castle, to meet her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, it being her first visit to the Queen since her return from Weymouth. Her Royal Highness gratified the party with a concerto on the grand piano-forte, in the execution of which she displayed a proficiency in the science, which could only have resulted from deep study and application. A bed was prepared for her Royal Highness, to enable her to leave Windsor with the royal party for Brighton.

On her arrival at Brighton the Princess Char-

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lotte is represented to have been in the happiest spirits. The meeting with her illustrious Father was truly affectionate; and it was a high source of gratification to him to behold the health of his royal daughter so apparently well established. She was, however, still obliged to conform to a very strict regimen, the principal point of which was a total abstinence from animal food, from which she had hitherto experienced the most beneficial effects.

Among the distinguished visitors at the Pavilion was Prince Esterhazy, the Austrian ambassador, to whom the Princess Charlotte was introduced soon after her arrival. She appeared to take particular pleasure in his society, for to a general knowledge of the world the Prince added a deep acquaintance with subjects in general, and especially with the polity of nations. The Princess Charlotte allowed no opportunity to escape her by which the store of her own knowledge could be augmented; and in the society of an individual, possessing the extensive acquirements which adorned the mind of Prince Esterhazy, it was impossible to remain without reaping information of a most important and valuable nature. Their conversation was carried on entirely in the German language, and this in itself was no secondary recommendation to the Princess Charlotte, as she thereby obtained the correct pronunciation of the language, and heard it spoken in its genuine purity.

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The Princess Charlotte's birth-day falling on a Sunday, no celebration of it took place at the Pavilion on that day. Divine service was performed at the Pavilion, in the presence of the Queen, the Prince Regent, the Princess Charlotte, and the whole of the royal suite. It was performed by the Bishop of Exeter, clerk of the closet, and the Reverend J. S. Clarke, chaplain to the household.

The Prince Regent, having been attacked with a fit of the gout, during the latter period of the visit of his illustrious guests, was prevented from enjoying an active participation in the various entertainments which had been provided for them, and his absence necessarily threw a languor over the whole proceedings.

The birth-day of the Princess Charlotte was celebrated at the Pavilion on the 8th, in the most magnificent style. Music was the leading feature of the amusements which succeeded to the hospitalities of the table, and the party did not separate until a late hour, highly gratified with the attentions of their illustrious host.

On Saturday the 21st, the royal party left the Pavilion for Windsor; on their route thither they stopped at the Earl of Rothes', to take some refreshment, and arrived at Windsor about four. The Princess Charlotte stepped into her own carriage, which was in waiting for her, and took her Royal Highness to Cranbourne-Lodge to dinner.

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Although the rumour had been for some time industriously circulated amongst the higher circles of the approaching marriage of the Princess Charlotte, yet few were able to point to the individual who was to bear away so fair a prize. The frequent and long sittings of the cabinet, the continual references to the Princess Charlotte, all gave publicity to the affair; and it at length transpired, that Mr. Vick, the messenger, had been sent from Paris, by Sir Charles Stewart, inviting Prince Leopold of Saxe Coburg Saalfeld to this country, to receive in marriage the hand of the Princess Charlotte of Wales. The messenger proceeded with the communication to Saxe Coburg Saalfeld, but, finding that Prince Leopold was gone to Berlin, he followed him thither, and delivered the gratifying tidings to his Highness. His answer was delivered on the following day; and, on the 20th of February, his Highness landed at Dover. The inhabitants of that place assembled in crowds to see him, and expressed their joy on the occasion by universal and animated cheers. The following lines, written on a similar occasion by Joseph Spence, royal professor of modern history in the university of Oxford, are extremely applicable to Prince Leopold:—

> And thou, Saxonia's brightest ornament,
> Welcome to these congenial shores:
> See thine own people, the compatriot tribes,
> With heartfelt joy, and zealous loud acclaim,
> Thy blest arrival hail.

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Be this thy better country; nor regret
Thy natal plains, tho' dear; here thou shalt find
What largely shall o'erpay thy loss.—Lo! here
Thy parent, brother, friend, all charities
Compris'd in one,—thy consort.

The following particulars of the illustrious house of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld, may be considered as here not unappropriate; as the history of a family, a member of which was in a short time by marriage with the presumptive heiress to the throne, to be identified with the British nation, cannot but be regarded in a most interesting and important light.

The German genealogists trace the origin of the present Saxon princes to Wittekind, the celebrated chief of the Saxons, who, for thirty years contended against all the power of Charlemagne; and who, after his final submission to that conqueror, still retained large territorial possessions, together with the ducal title. Some persons are disposed to dispute this origin, and merely on the assumed ground, that no positive documents exist by which it can be clearly ascertained. Now, the national character of the Saxons is in itself a sufficient voucher, that no trouble, no pains, nor expense, would be considered as too great, by which the branches of their genealogical tree could be definitively traced to one celebrated individual; and, although no authentic document establishing the line of propinquity were to be found in the archives of

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any individual branch of the Saxon family, yet the fact is not therefore to be considered as established,—that no such document does exist amongst the archives of the other numerous branches of that family. Accordingly, there is a document now existing in the archives of the royal house of Saxony, which satisfactorily proves that Wittekind, or *Wettinkind*, as it is there written, was the founder of the Saxon family, whose immediate descendants assumed the title of counts of Zörbig and Wettin, and, subsequently, of dukes of Saxony, of whom Bernard, in 1212, was the first who was raised to the electoral dignity. The electorate was enjoyed by the descendants of this prince until 1422, when, on the failure of his line it was conferred on Frederick "the Warlike," margrave of Thuringia, also a descendant of Wittekind. To this prince the important privilege was granted by the emperor Sigismund, of *sealing with red wax*. He dying in 1428, was succeeded by Frederick the second, "the Gentle;" and, on the death of Frederick "the Simple," landgrave of Thuringia, his possessions devolved to Frederick "the Gentle," and his brother William. This latter prince dying without issue, his estates devolved to Ernest and Albert, his brother's sons, from whom are descended the Ernestine and Albertine branches of the house of Saxony. The Ernestine, which was the elder branch, continued to enjoy the electorate until 1547, when John, "the Mag-

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nanimous" was deprived of that dignity by the Emperor Charles V., who conferred it on Maurice, the patriarch of the Albertine branch, to which the present king of Saxony belongs. On the death of John "the Magnanimous," the Albertine and Ernestine branches of the house of Saxony were united in Maurice, the son of duke Henry of Meissen, to whom the electorate had been given by Charles V. The protestant religion owes the greatest obligations to the princes of the Ernestine line. Frederick, the elder son of Ernest, was Luther's first patron and defender. John, the second son of Ernest, was the chief promoter of the protestation against the church of Rome, from which the protestants have derived their appellation. This John was surnamed "the Constant."

Maurice was killed by a silver ball in a battle with Albert, margrave of Brandenburg, near the village of Sivenhausen, in the duchy of Luneburg; but it was supposed, that as the ball perforated his back, it was fired by one of his own people.

Augustus succeeded his brother Maurice, whose first wife was Anna, daughter of Christian, king of Denmark. On her decease he married, in his 60th year, a daughter of Prince Joachim Ernest of Anhalt, who had not quite completed her 13th year. This prince was what would be termed, at the present day, an eccentric character. Alchemy was his favourite study; and, having

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impressed the idea upon the minds of his subjects, that he was most profoundly skilled in the transmutation of metals, no murmurs arose at the apparent extravagance which he displayed in the erection of his institutions; for, by the powers of his art, he was supposed to possess an inexhaustible source of riches, and therefore had no cause to apportion the revenues of the state to the promotion of his scientific pursuits. He died, notwithstanding, immensely rich, being more the fruits of rigid economy in his private affairs, than of his skill in the science of alchemy. Wherever he went he always planted stones and seeds of the best and choicest fruits, having always a bag full of them in his pocket. He was succeeded by his son, Christian I., in 1586, who died in 1591, in the 31st year of his age. Of the succeeding branches of the Albertine line, a very brief notice will be necessary, until the elevation to the throne of Poland, on which occasion Frederic Augustus I., to qualify himself for that dignity, exchanged the protestant for the catholic faith, to which his successors have ever since adhered.

Christian II. died in 1611, at the early age of twenty-seven years, and was succeeded by his brother, John George I.; during whose reign Saxony was devastated by the contending armies in the thirty-years' war.

John George II. succeeded his father in 1656, and died in 1680. This prince had three brothers, Augustus, Christian, and Maurice. By these per-

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sons the houses of Saxe Weissenfels, Saxe Merseburg, and Saxe Zeitz, were founded. They are all now extinct, and their dominions reverted to the electoral family.

John George III. died in 1691, holding at that time the high appointment of commander-in-chief of the army of the empire employed against the French.

John George IV., in right of his mother, was declared the heir-apparent to the throne of Denmark. He was the first Saxon prince who was honored with the order of the garter. He died in 1694, and was succeeded by

Frederic Augustus I., who, in 1697, was elected king of Poland. Although successful in his wars against the Turks, he experienced the most disastrous defeats in his campaigns against Charles XII. of Sweden. Some most singular anecdotes are related of the astonishing muscular strength which this prince possessed, and some of them certainly border upon the miraculous. He broke an iron bar like a stick; he could take a silver or a copper plate, and roll it up like a sheet of paper. He calculated the solidity of his horses' shoes by the facility with which he could break them; and he once snapped the chains of a drawbridge which opposed his entrance into a town. Glafy, in his History of Saxony, designates him the German Sampson, and asserts, that his muscular feats were witnessed by all classes of people. He died in 1733.

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Frederic Augustus II. succeeded to the throne of Poland, and died in 1763. Frederic Christian survived his father but two months, and was succeeded by his son, Frederic Augustus III., the present king of Saxony, who, by his adherence to the cause of Buonaparte, was deprived of his acquisitions in Poland, and nearly of one half of his hereditary dominions.

In order to obviate an error which has become general, it is necessary to state, that the house of Saxe-Coburg, and that of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld, to the latter of which Prince Leopold belongs, were two distinct and separate houses.

When the dominions of Ernest the Pious were divided, Coburg was allotted to Albert, who, dying without issue, in the year 1697, this principality became a subject of dispute between the houses of Gotha, Meinungen, Hilburghausen, and Saalfeld. In the year 1735, the dispute was brought to a favorable termination; and the town and district of Coburg were adjudged to the house of Saalfeld; and Sonnenberg and Neuhaus to Meinungen.

The pedigree of Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld will, therefore, stand as follows:—

ALBERTINE BRANCH, *Catholic.*

Frederic Augustus, King of Saxony.

ERNESTINE BRANCH, *Lutheran.*

Saxe-Weimar Eisenach—Duke Charles Augustus, born 3 Sep. 1757.

Saxe-Gotha and Altenburgh—Duke Augustus, born 23 Nov. 1772.

Saxe-Meinungen—Duke Bernard Eric Freund, born 17 Dec. 1800.

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Saxe-Hildburghausen—Duke Frederic, born 29 April 1763.
Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld—Duke Ernest Frederic Anthony, born 2 Jan. 1784.

Brothers and Sisters.

1. Sophia Frederica Carolina Louisa, born 10 Aug. 1778, married to Emanuel Count of Mansdorff and Poully, a colonel in the Austrian service.
2. Antoinetta Ernestina Amelia, born 28 Aug. 1779, married Duke Charles Alexander Frederic, brother to the King of Wirtemberg, a general in the Russian service, and governor of Livonia, Esthonia, and Courland.
3. Juliana Henrietta Ulrica, born 23 Sept. 1781, married, in 1796, to the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia; when, by the articles of the Greek Church, she assumed the name of Anne Feodoroffna.
4. Ferdinand George Augustus, born 28 March, 1785.
5. Maria Louisa Victoria, born 17 Aug. 1786; married to Ernest Charles Louis, hereditary Prince of Leinengen, by whom she has been left a widow.
6. Leopold George Christian Frederic, born 16 Dec. 1790.

The mother of these illustrious individuals was Augusta Carolina Sophia, daughter of Count Henry XXIV., Reuss of Ebersdorf, who may justly be extolled as one of the brightest patterns of female excellence, and of rigid obedience to the strict performance of the various duties imposed upon her by her exalted station, and by the trying circumstances in which she was placed from the political convulsions of the day. To her constant and indefatigable attention must be ascribed the high degree of mental cultivation which her children received, and which afterwards enabled them to assume and support those important characters

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on the stage of life, upon which the political destiny of their country depended. The actions of the heroes of the house of Coburg form a conspicuous figure in the annals of the late wars; and it may with truth be affirmed, that not one single Saxon family can produce so many individuals who have bled in defence of their country, or who, by their diplomatic talents, have secured its liberties, as the family of Coburg. The memorable and victorious campaigns in the Netherlands, where the allied armies were commanded by the Prince of Coburg, notwithstanding the obstructions which were thrown in his way by the court of Vienna itself, are a sufficient testimony of the services which that family has rendered their country; and the historian will transmit them to posterity, as noble examples of martial heroism and patriotic virtue. To the honor of this family, it will ever stand on record, that, whilst the surrounding principalities were crouching at the foot of the Gallic tyrant, the agents of his ambition and of his crimes, and, by their abject submission, increasing the pompous train of his vassals, the princes of the house of Coburg contemned his honors and his alliance; and though obliged, for a time, to yield to the strong tide of adversity which set in against them, yet in their breasts the noble fire of patriotism was never quenched, but merely smothered, to break forth in all its native vigour, whenever the

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prospect presented itself of emancipating their country from the galling and oppressive yoke of an upstart tyrant.

Although it would be a pleasing task to follow the illustrious individuals of the house of Coburg through their various exploits, yet, in the present instance, the description of them would be irrelevant, excepting in those cases, in which Prince Leopold, the younger branch of the family, participated.

Previously to the French revolution, a German principality might be justly considered an *imperium in imperio;* governed by their own laws, and according to their own political constitution, the little states presented an heterogeneous body of civilized governments, supported by an exhibition of military strength, which, when collected in one mass, was sufficient to repel invasion, and even to carry victory into the heart of the invading country. Aggrandizement of territory has ever been the ruling, though secret principle of action of the German princes; and the wary despot, who at that time ruled the destinies of France, foresaw a favorable opening to the consummation of his ambitious views, in the clashing interests of the petty states of Germany; and he calculated that by creating dissensions amongst them, the weak would naturally fall a prey to the stronger, and the latter in its turn would fall a prey to him. The bait which was gilded with consummate art, was seized with avidity; the minor states were

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gradually absorbed in the larger, and the ultimate conquest of the latter was the consequence.

Of all the governments existing at that time in Germany, the house of Coburg, possessing deeper penetration and foresight than the others, appeared the most unwilling to participate in the dismemberment of the Germanic states, and openly avowed its resistance to those measures which were then in the progress of execution; the whole weight of the tyrant's vengeance fell in consequence upon them, and no opportunity was suffered to escape by which their possessions could be despoiled, or misery inflicted upon any individual member of the family.

In the year 1806, the political affairs in the north of Germany presented the most disastrous aspect; the electoral states of the house of Brunswick had been taken possession of by Prussia, under the plea, that as it was obtained by right of conquest, by the Emperor Napoleon, the rightful possession of it had passed over to Prussia, in consideration of the cession of three of its provinces.

The French arms were every where victorious, and towards the close of the year, they approached the Saxon frontiers. At that period, Duke Francis of Coburg resided at Coburg with the younger branches of his family, among whom was Prince Leopold, then about fourteen years of age.

The brothers of Leopold, both actuated by a

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martial spirit, and feeling for the degraded and humiliating state of their country, hastened to that quarter where their services might be attended with the greatest benefit. Ernest, the hereditary prince, had repaired to the Prussian head-quarters, and Ferdinand was actively employed in the Austrian service.

On the approach of the French armies, Duke Francis considered it prudent to retire from Coburg, and with his family repaired to Saalfeld. The amiable dispositions of Prince Leopold displayed themselves in this instance, in the most pleasing manner. The health of his father had been long in a declining state; and the present distressed and harassed situation, into which he was thrown by political events, increased his indisposition. From the affectionate care and attentions of his son Leopold, he received the greatest consolation under his afflictions; and the pleasure which he derived from his society, tended in no small degree to divert his mind from the contemplation of those objects which pressed so heavily upon it. His disposition partaking considerably of the hypochondriacal, it required the utmost assiduity on the part of Prince Leopold, to prevent his parent from sinking into a state of despair; and he partially succeeded in his design, by divesting the events as they transpired of their sombre hue, and representing the great probability of a change in the existing state of affairs in Germany.

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In the mean time victory followed the armies of France, and a besieging corps appeared before the gates of Saalfeld. No conditional surrender was accepted or even proposed; and the bloodthirsty enemy, actuated by a most diabolical spirit of revenge, and resolved to inflict the utmost horrors of war on the family of Coburg, stormed the castle. Although but a stripling, Prince Leopold exhibited the most distinguished proofs of a daring spirit; and, he shewed that he possessed the native courage of his illustrious ancestors. In this contest it may be said, that his maiden sword was fleshed;—the feelings of the patriot and of the son nerved his young arm;—he fought for his country and for his parents, for his kindred and his home;—nor did he yield the contest until every hope of victory had vanished, and the colours of the enemy were flying upon the ramparts. The ducal family escaped from the hands of their infuriated and revengeful enemy; but the loss of his possessions, joined to an accumulation of other severe misfortunes, operated too strongly upon the mind of the Duke, and in the following winter he found a refuge from his troubles in the grave.

The disastrous battle of Saalfeld forms a conspicuous figure in the history of the late wars; and, it was generally remarked, that less quarter was given by the enemy in this battle, than in any other which was fought during that campaign.

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With the history of the family of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld is connected, in a particular degree, the versatile conduct of Prussia, which at that time began to shew itself. The coalition which had been formed against France, was connected by the most slender ties; and the extraordinary genius which at that time presided over her destinies, seized in the most adroit manner every opportunity by which they could be broken. There was no opposition to his projects, no collision with his interest. The decisions of his cabinet, or, more correctly speaking of his closet, instead of being obliged to wait the forms of slow deliberation, or the fluctuations of remote caprice, tending to dissipate the most valuable energies, sprang with all their bloom and freshness into immediate action. The adjustment of all his plans, the appointment of all his agents, depended solely upon himself. When to this circumstance, so calculated to simplify the working of the vast machine, to produce not counteraction but effective and complete co-operation, is added his profound knowledge of the machine itself; the success of this extraordinary man will appear less mysterious than many, who have thought it necessary to call in fortune or destiny to their assistance, have actually felt it. In the coalitions which he has had to encounter, this simplicity in the midst of complication, has in a great measure, doubtless, necessarily been deficient. Instead of being brought to bear with accumulated force against the enemy, one party

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has arrived on the scene of conflict just after the destruction of another with which it ought to have co-operated; and thus, instead of putting a knife to the throat of the enemy, has only supplied a fresh repast for his inordinate ambition. Buonaparte had conquered Hanover, and his victorious armies were overrunning the north of Germany; at this period, Ernest, the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld, was at the head-quarters of the Prussian army. The defection of Prussia from the great cause of Europe had not then been obtained by the annexation of Hanover to its dominions; and Buonaparte, influenced by the full spirit of active vengeance against the Coburg family, publicly denounced the Duke of Coburg as one of his principal enemies; and, in strict conformity with that denunciation, seized all the territories of the family, and laid a heavy contribution upon the country.

The youth of Prince Leopold had hitherto prevented him from taking a very active part in the momentous events which were then enacting on the theatre of Europe; but the goodness of his heart, and the excellence of his disposition, manifested themselves in a striking manner, in his assiduous attentions on his mother, solacing her under the severe privations which she was then experiencing, and cheering the hours of her widowhood by the fondest anticipation of her wishes.

The third sister of Prince Leopold having been married to the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia,

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the House of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld became more closely connected with the court of Russia.

On this occasion, a high rank in the Russian army was given, not only to Duke Ernest, but to Prince Leopold; and it was at that time intended that the latter should devote himself to the Russian service. In the year 1803, Prince Leopold was promoted to the rank of general.

At the memorable peace of Tilsit, the influence of that court succeeded in obtaining the restoration of the territories formerly belonging to the House of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld; but, on Duke Ernest taking possession of the country, he found it in the most abject state of poverty. It presented almost a barren desert to his view; the fields, which a short time before bore the mark of the husbandman's toil, and flourished with the most luxuriant fertility, were now ploughed by the wheels of the cannon, and trampled by the war-horse. The various institutions which had been erected for the promotion of the arts and sciences, or for purposes of charity, were levelled with the ground, and the castles of his forefathers presented an undistinguishable mass of ruins. It becomes not, therefore, a matter of surprise, that in the breast of the three princes of the House of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld, a deep hatred of French supremacy should have taken root, to burst into the most luxuriant action, whenever an opportunity should present itself. The deliverance of their country was predominant in their thoughts, though

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they forbore at that time openly to express it; but they regarded it as a sacred injunction upon them, and the sequel will testify how nobly they obeyed it.

In the year 1808, Ernest, the reigning duke, repaired to St. Petersburgh, and left the administration of the duchy to his brother, Prince Leopold. The able manner in which he performed the duties of his office, the uprightness and impartiality with which he administered the laws, the provisions which he made for the encouragement of the manufactures of the country, the very economical manner in which he managed the finances, and the wholesome regulations which he established in the civil and military departments of the government, excited the admiration and gratitude of his countrymen, and gained for him the envied title of its benefactor.

An interview having been agreed on between Napoleon and the Emperor Alexander, at Erfurt, Prince Leopold, with his brother-in-law, the Grand Duke Constantine, attended that celebrated meeting, at which the gigantic and ambitious plans of Napoleon became first manifest to the Emperor Alexander; and exposed to him the danger in which even his own distant frontiers was involved, were he to enter into the designs of Napoleon, which were nothing less than the entire subjugation of the surrounding states, which after being completed, his own empire would lay open to the attack of the ambitious conqueror; and, as

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a favorable result to such a contest did not appear to him so positive as to induce him to co-operate in the conquest of the adjoining states, he adopted the most prudent line of policy which presented itself at that juncture, and decided on a strict neutrality. The presence of Prince Leopold, at this meeting, was evidently not only displeasing but embarrassing to Napoleon in the highest degree. He knew the patriotic sentiments which directed the actions of the Princes of the House of Coburg Saalfeld, and therefore watched their motions with the most scrupulous exactness. He appeared to have a painful presentiment resting upon his mind, that by the abilities and exertions of those illustrious princes, a limit would be placed to his career of bloodshed and ambition; and he doubted not that, on the first reverse of his fortune, they would cordially declare against him. Accordingly, in 1809, when Austria was again involved in war with France, it was a positive demand on the part of Buonaparte, that Prince Ferdinand of Coburg should quit the Austrian service, which, however, at that time was not complied with; but, in 1810, the demand was repeated, and it was complied with the most peremptory order, that Prince Leopold should also quit the Russian service. To expostulate on the injustice of the latter demand, Prince Leopold repaired to Paris; but instead of succeeding in the object of his mission, he was emphatically informed, that he had the choice of two measures,

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either his secession from the Russian service, or the annexation of the Coburg territories to one of the adjoining states. This was a *sine qua non* wholly unexpected on the part of Prince Leopold, though conveying, at the same time, a most flattering compliment to himself; he accordingly, sacrificed his own private interests to those of his family, and his resignation was received by the Emperor of Russia, coupled however, with the stipulation, that he should still hold his rank in the Russian service.

During some time, Prince Leopold was employed in the diplomatic department of his country; and as from the convulsed state of Germany, and the frequent changes in the territorial boundaries of the respective countries, many disputes had arisen, which, on the part of some were vexatious, and on others were founded on the right of the strong, it required no inconsiderable portion of diplomatic talent to reconcile the jarring interests of the respective parties, and to prevent an open appeal to the sword in the adjustment of their conflicting claims. To the credit and honor of Prince Leopold, it must, however, be recorded, that in all the arrangements which were submitted to his decision, he was actuated by the purest spirit of justice; and ultimately succeeded, especially with Bavaria, where the complicated interests were of doubtful issue, in effecting that definitive arrangement by which the frontiers of the respective countries were finally established.

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In a preceding part of this Memoir it was stated, that the Emperor Alexander, possessing a deep penetration into the views of the French ruler, had adopted a temporizing line of policy, of which caution and prudence were the basis; and, as those views gradually unfolded themselves, the propriety of that policy became every day more apparent. But there was a point beyond which forbearance would be criminal; and that point was no sooner overstepped by Napoleon, than the indignant spirit of Russia was roused, and she immediately placed herself in a defensive attitude. The eagles of France were immediately set in motion; and the black eagle of Russia, looking from his distant eyrie, awaited, but feared not the approaching conflict. Prince Leopold, whose ardent spirit longed to signalize itself, under the injured banners of his country, again applied to Russia, to be admitted into active service; but Alexander answered him—"Much as I should profit by your services, still they would be dearly purchased by that ruin, which would infallibly befal your family on the first moment that it was known by Napoleon that your sword was drawn." With this noble consideration for the interests of the Coburg Saalfeld family, the offer of Prince Leopold was rejected; and, foreseeing no immediate prospect of being useful to his country, he resolved upon a tour to the south of Europe, during which he obtained much substantial knowledge,

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and enjoyed frequent opportunities of cultivating his taste for the fine arts.

In the year 1813, Prince Leopold began his active military career, which was one connected series of glorious exploits, until the second occupation of Paris by the allied troops, and the final downfal of the Buonapartean family.

On his return from his visit to this country, in company with the allied sovereigns, during which he succeeded in gaining the affections of the Princess Charlotte of Wales, his family affairs detained him for a considerable time in the French capital; and having, in consequence, some final arrangements to adjust with the Prussian government, he proceeded by the way of Coburg to Berlin; and here the welcome invitation of the Prince Regent of England was communicated to him, by which he was called to accept in marriage the hand of his illustrious daughter.

On the 21st of February, 1816, his Serene Highness arrived in London, and took up his residence at the Clarendon Hotel. His arrival was immediately made known to Lord Castlereagh, who lost no time in waiting on the Prince, to know his pleasure as to his future arrangements. After his lordship had taken his leave, he despatched a King's messenger, with the result of the interview, to the Prince Regent at Brighton. On the following day his Serene Highness was occupied in receiving visits, at the Clarendon Hotel,

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HIS SERENE HIGHNESS

PRINCE LEOPOLD OF SAXE COBURG.

Engraved by J. Hopwood Jun.r from a Miniature in the possession of a Lady of Quality.

London. Published by T. Kelly, Paternoster Row. Dec.r 27. 1817.

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from a number of distinguished characters; after which he paid a visit to the Archdukes John and Lewis of Austria, who were at that time on a visit to this country. In the course of the day General Sir Benjamin Bloomfield arrived from Brighton, having been despatched express, by command of the Prince Regent, to invite Prince Leopold to the Pavilion at Brighton. In the evening his Highness dined with Lord Castlereagh, at whose house there was a select party to meet him.

Early on the following morning his Serene Highness, accompanied by Lord Castlereagh, left town for Brighton; and it was understood that his introduction to the Princess Charlotte was to take place at the Pavilion. The manner in which he was received at Brighton, must, to a heart like his, susceptible of feeling, have been highly gratifying. It was the welcome with which a dear relative or a friend would have been received, not that, which is in general bestowed upon the stranger. The congratulations which he met with from every quarter on his arrival in this country, were those of the heart, and not of fictitious joy. The interesting situation in which he presented himself, precluded the observance of the customary formalities; and he was received into the royal circle, as one who had formerly belonged to it, but who, under particular circumstances, had been for a time estranged from it. His manners and deportment were justly admired; there was no appearance of frippery nor false pride about him;

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but a manly openness accompanied all his actions, which in the end could not fail to render him a favorite with the British nation.

On Monday, the 27th, the Queen, the Princess Charlotte of Wales, and the Princesses Elizabeth and Mary, left Windsor-Castle for Brighton, at which place they arrived to dinner. To those who have experienced the delightful feelings of meeting with a beloved object after a long absence, the mere description must appear tame and vapid. Although the restraint was great, which the formalities attendant upon a royal introduction necessarily imposed upon the illustrious couple, yet there is a language, which no tongue can utter, no cool spectator can understand—it is the language of the heart, which speaking through the eye, tells to its kindred heart the rapture it enjoys. The bright glance of joy, beaming in its radiance from an eye half suffused in tears, mingles with its congenial glance, and penetrating to the heart gives birth to feelings—the sweetest, dearest, of our nature. In this blissful moment, the warrior received an ample recompense for the dangers and hardships which he had undergone, nor did the happy object of his affections think the reward too great.

The stay of the royal visitors at Brighton was very short, but during that time many important preliminaries were settled in regard to the approaching nuptials, both in a public and private point of view; and it was definitively arranged, that they should be consummated as soon as the

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formal instruments could be prepared. Some delay, however, occurred in the customary message being brought down to Parliament on the subject, in consequence of the indisposition of the Prince Regent, as previously to that important step being taken, the consent of the crown must be given in council, and the treaty of marriage regularly signed.

In the mean time, orders were issued for selecting a residence fit for the reception of the illustrious couple, and Colonel Stephenson, the president of the Board of Works, entered into some arrangements with Earl Harcourt for his house in Cavendish-square; but, on a close inspection of the premises, they were found to be so greatly out of repair, that more than one hundred thousand pounds would have been requisite to render it a fit residence for the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold. A treaty was then entered into for Camelford-House, the property of Lord Grenville; and it being found, in all respects, an eligible residence for their Highnesses, the treaty was concluded and possession was to be formerly given up on the day specified in the agreement.

Lord Grenville consented to grant a lease of the mansion, renewable at a stated number of years, with the use of the furniture in its actual condition, of which an inventory in the customary form was prepared.

Whilst these negotiations were pending, Prince

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Leopold remained at the Pavilion at Brighton, where, by the affability of his manners, he ingratiated himself not only with the distinguished individuals, with whom he associated, but with the inhabitants of the town, with whom he conversed with all the ease and freedom of the polished gentleman, uninfluenced by his station or his rank.

As a proof of the condescension which accompanied his actions, his Serene Highness was, on the 4th of March, walking in the vicinity of the West Cliff, when he was overtaken by a violent storm of lightning and hail. To avoid the indiscriminate attack of the tempest, he took shelter in a small inn at the bottom of West-street, and seating himself down, began to read the newspaper. The host knew not the honor which was paid him, and eyed his guest, in expectation of some of the good things of his house being called for. Boniface wisely considered that a *qui pro quo* was the basis of all trade, and that as he had given the gentleman accommodation during the tempest, the gentleman must drink something, whether he required it or not; he, therefore, accosted the Prince with all the civility of his profession, and requested to know what he would be pleased to take? The Prince answered, "Nothing." In the estimation of Boniface, he was directly a shabby fellow, and no gentleman; and something of a hint was given that he should make but a sorry living, if he had all such guests as him. Two gentlemen coming in immediately after, driven also into the house

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by the tempest, recognized the Prince, and saluted him in the most respectful manner. The salute was returned with the greatest condescension, and the host was soon made acquainted with the rank of his illustrious guest. His confusion may be easily imagined, and a string of apologies was stammered as long as his bill of fare, which he was just then thinking of putting into the hands of his Highness. The hostess was all in a bustle; the daughter blushed, the host ran against the waiter, and the waiter against the hostess. A greater confusion existed not amongst the panic-struck French, when, at Commentrai, Prince Leopold rushed amongst them with his cavalry, and tried the temper of his blade on their fugitive backs. The tempest being over, Prince Leopold left the inn, leaving a handsome gratuity for Boniface, who immediately declared he was a prince,—every inch of him.

The following arrangement for the marriage of the Princess Charlotte having been made public, and which was suggested by the Prince Regent, a most singular construction was immediately put upon it by some of the coffee-house politicians of the day; who consider it as an open reflection upon them, if, in every action proceeding from royalty, they do not discover something partaking of the marvellous and eccentric, and which never could have been discovered by any other heads than their own.

It was arranged, that the precedent of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Brunswick, was to be

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strictly followed, in consequence of which no distinction of the Royal Family of England was to be continued to her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte; and even the royal liveries were not to be worn by her servants, but those of the illustrious house of Coburg Saalfeld were to be substituted in their place, in which the taste of her Royal Highness was to be particularly consulted.

The box of Pandora, containing the royal secrets into which the pseudo politicians of the day had been long straining to obtain a peep, was now, in their opinion, completely opened; and it was discovered, that in consequence of the above arrangement having been made by the Prince Regent himself, his Royal Highness must entertain some hopes at a future time of having a son, or he would have considered his daughter as the heiress apparent, not the heiress presumptive to the crown. But as this son could only be obtained by the death of the Princess of Wales, and a subsequent marriage of the Prince Regent, or by a divorce from his present consort, and seeing that there was no immediate prospect of the former event taking place, it was considered as almost amounting to a syllogistic demonstration, that the Prince Regent must have the latter event in his contemplation; and thus, whilst his Royal Highness, as an affectionate parent, was looking forwards with anticipated delight to the happy establishment of his beloved daughter, in whom were centered, not only his own hopes, but those of the nation,

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were malignity and malice to sally forth from the pestiferous dungeons of their retreat, and, from their mildewed lips, attempt to blow the pestilential blast of discord on the Royal Family, at a moment when the recollection of former sufferings was to be hushed on the bosom of love, and personal differences quelled in the prospect of future happiness?—The venomed shaft, however, reached not its destination; it fell hurtless to the ground, and the fiends who aimed it, slunk to their native darkness, to brood over the failure of their plots.

On the 10th of March, a privy-council was held at Brighton, which was attended by all the cabinet ministers, and it was specially summoned for the purpose of taking into consideration the arrangements necessary to be made for the nuptials of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte; and the Lord Chancellor affixed the great seal to the royal consent, authorizing the marriage.

On the 13th of March, the Earl of Liverpool, in his place in the House of Lords, intimated the probability of his being authorized by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent to bring a message to the House on the following day, relative to the marriage of the Princess Charlotte of Wales. He made that communication to their lordships so early, because it was usual, on similar occasions, to move an address on the same day as that on which the message was delivered. Lord Castle-

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reagh gave notice of a similar message on the same day in the House of Commons.

Accordingly, on the following day, the Earl of Liverpool delivered a message from the Prince Regent, relative to the intended marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales with his Serene Highness the Prince of Saxe-Coburg *, which was read by the Lord Chancellor, and afterwards by the Clerk, in substance as follows :—

" GEORGE P. R.

" His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting

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* In direct opposition to my own judgment, I here give the title of Prince Leopold as it is given to him in the preamble of the Earl of Liverpool, and in the message of the Prince Regent. In the official documents, and especially in the treaty of marriage, he is throughout designated as *Prince of Cobourg of Saalfeld.* How such gross errors could have been admitted into our official documents is not for me to question: but it certainly exposes the party who had the framing of those documents, to an imputation of gross ignorance. His titles in the German are as follow: Herzog von Saxe, Margraf von Meissen, Landgraf von Thuringuen, und Fürst von Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld. How the latter title could have been rendered Prince of Saxe-Cobourg of Saalfeld, must puzzle even a tyro in the German language. To be thus translated, it ought to have stood, Fürst von Saxe-Coburg *von* Saalfeld; but the truth is, that Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld is one territory; the possessions of the House of Coburg having been ceded to the House of Saalfeld in the year 1735. Coburg is also spelt erroneously in our official papers, it being spelt *Cobourg*, whereas it should be Coburg. Burg signifying a city in the German language, as Hamburg, Nuremburg, Limburg, Strasburg, *cum multis aliis.*

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in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, having given the royal consent to the marriage of his daughter the Princess Charlotte Augusta with his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick Prince of Cobourg, has thought fit to communicate his intentions to the House. His Royal Highness hopes, that it cannot but be gratifying to all his faithful subjects; and the many proofs he has had of the attachment of this House, leave him no doubt that they will enable him to make such a provision for her Royal Highness as may be suitable to the honor and dignity of these realms."

The Earl of Liverpool then spoke. He had found upon investigation that it had been the invariable practice, on all occasions of delivering messages of this nature from the crown, to move an address upon it on the same day on which it was delivered in; and he was sure their lordships would not be disposed now to pay less respect to the royal message than had been paid at former periods, and would be, therefore, anxious to follow that course which had been uniformly pursued on similar occasions. The object of the message was of the highest importance, and must be deeply interesting to their lordships, and to all classes of his Majesty's subjects. Whatever difference of opinion there might be among them on political matters, they must all feel disposed to concur in such measures as might be best calculated to promote the comfort and happiness of the Royal Family. He was persuaded, therefore, that

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he should be acting contrary to the feelings of the House, if he were to detain their lordships from coming to a vote on the address which he was about to propose, by entering into any detail of the subject at present. But he felt it proper and due to say, and he said so, not as using the words of course, and expressions of mere compliment, but as having had an opportunity of ascertaining the fact from the best sources of information, that with respect to the illustrious Prince upon whom his Royal Highness the Prince Regent had thought proper to bestow his daughter in marriage, he believed there was on the continent of Europe but one sentiment and opinion as to his personal merits and respectability. He was not now speaking of the opinion merely of the members of that illustrious person's own house and family, but of the general opinion and sentiment of all the courts of Europe; of the opinion of his equals and his inferiors, all of whom agreed in bearing testimony to the propriety of his conduct and the goodness of his character. This was not the time to say any thing as to the provision which it might be fitting to make for these illustrious persons on the occasion of their marriage; this question would come regularly before their lordships at another time. He would now only say, in reference to that point, that he had paid the utmost attention to the subject, and considered it both with a view to what was due to the illustrious parties themselves, and also

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with a view to what would be creditable to the country without any improper extravagance. But he would not let this part of the subject pass without this observation; that when their lordships came to consider what provision it would be proper to make for this occasion, he trusted their lordships would take care that it should be made in such a manner, that the illustrious persons, of whom he had been speaking, might have the free enjoyment in the first instance of their own income. He said so, because he had observed, that when a provision had been made, though it was sufficient for its purpose, yet, from the want of such a regulation as he had mentioned on the part of parliament, it had become altogether insufficient. Their lordships, therefore, he was persuaded, would be disposed to place the illustrious persons in a situation where they would have the free use of their own income. It was their wish, he was authorized to say, to confine their expenses strictly within their income; and, in saying this, he relied confidently on the liberality of parliament, that with every proper attention to economy, it would give that income and assistance which would be worthy of a great nation, on the occasion of a marriage of such importance. He should therefore move—

That a humble address be presented to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, returning the thanks of the House for his gracious communication, and to express their entire satisfaction

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with the marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte Augusta to a protestant Prince of so illustrious a house; an event which must be satisfactory to all classes of his Majesty's subjects, and conducive to the best interests of the country; and to assure his Royal Highness that he might rely with confidence on the concurrence of the House of Lords, in such measures as might be necessary to conclude this marriage, and to demonstrate the affectionate zeal and dutiful regard of the House towards his Royal Highness and the Royal Family, as well as its disposition to pay every proper attention to what was due to the honor and dignity of the Crown.

The question upon the address having been put by the Lord Chancellor, it was agreed to without a dissenting voice.

In the House of Commons, Lord Castlereagh moved on the same day a similar address; which being agreed to, his lordship then moved that the House should, on the following day, go into a committee, to consider the message of his Royal Highness.

Accordingly, on the 15th of March, the House resolved itself into a committee; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated, that from the unanimity with which the House had last night agreed to an address of thanks to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent for his gracious communication, he could anticipate no objection to the measure which he had

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to submit to the House, relative to the auspicious marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte. He should have the honor of proposing to the House an establishment for her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, and his Serene Highness the Prince Leopold of Coburg; and he was sure he should meet with no opposition, as he should propose making for them such a provision, as while it would be sufficient to maintain every domestic comfort and ease, and all the splendor due to their high station, would be consistent with every attention to public economy. The object of his motion was two-fold; first, an annual allowance for their Royal Highnesses, and then an immediate sum to enable them to set out on the commencement of their establishment with due comfort and splendor, and without subjecting them to any of those embarrassments, which setting up an establishment too often occasions. The amount of the annual establishment which he should propose for their Royal Highnesses was 60,000*l.* a year; 10,000*l.* of which was to be reserved to her Royal Highness for her private use, and the remainder to go to the establishment of the royal pair. This was the annual establishment he should propose during their joint lives; and, in case of the death of Prince Leopold before the Princess, the allowance of 60,000*l.* a year to remain with her; but if the Princess should die before the Prince Leopold, his allowance to be 50,000*l.* a year during his life. It was to be observed, that, on this establishment taking place,

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her Royal Highness's present establishment would cease, which in all amounted to about 30,000*l.* a year; so that there would be only an increase of about 30,000*l.* a year more than her Royal Highnesses present expenditure. As much of the comfort of life depended on a suitable establishment in the setting out, and such an establishment would prevent any future call on the generosity of that House, he should propose, in the committee of supply, a ready sum of money in assistance to the annual provision for their outfit, for carriages, wine, &c. The sum he should propose was 40,000*l.*, and for dress to her Royal Highness, 10,000*l.*, and 10,000*l*, more for jewels. This establishment he was sure there was no gentleman in that House would object to. He had one point on which to offer an observation. It had been found impossible to select a suitable residence for their Royal Highnesses as yet; there would, probably, be an application for a further allowance for this purpose; and he could have no doubt of the concurrence of the House on the occasion. He then moved, that there should be an allowance from the consolidated fund of 60,000*l.* a year for an establishment for her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, and his Serene Highness Prince Leopold of Coburg, to commence on the day of their marriage.

After a few unimportant remarks from several members, the resolution was agreed to.

The following are the seven articles of the marriage settlement:—

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ARTICLE I.

It is concluded and agreed that the marriage between her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte Augusta, and his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thuringuen, Prince of Cobourg of Saalfeld, &c. &c. shall be solemnized in that part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, called Great Britain, both being present, according to the due tenor of the laws of England, and the rites and ceremonies of the church of the United Kingdom, as soon as the same may conveniently be done.

ARTICLE II.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, promises to secure to her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte Augusta, and to his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thuringuen, Prince of Cobourg of Saalfeld, &c. &c. &c. during their joint lives, and to the survivor of them, the annual sums herein-after mentioned;—that is to say, during their joint lives, the annual sum of sixty thousand pounds, to be paid quarterly; ten thousand pounds of which annual sum, also to be paid quarterly, shall be granted unto commissioners, named for that purpose by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting as aforesaid, to be by them received for the sole and separate use of the said Princess, notwithstanding her marriage state, and without his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thuringuen, Prince of Cobourg of Saalfeld, &c. &c. &c. having any power over the same, and which annual sum of ten thousand pounds, so payable quarterly, the said Princess shall not have power, either separately or conjointly with his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thuringuen, Prince of Cobourg of Saalfeld, &c. &c. &c., to alienate, mortgage, or receive or direct to be paid by way of anticipation; but the same shall, from time to time, as the same shall become due, be paid and payable into the proper hands of the

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said Princess alone, upon her own sole receipt, or to such person or persons to whom she shall, by writing, signed by herself alone, from time to time, as the same shall become due, direct and order the same to be paid, or otherwise to receive the same on her sole behalf.

ARTICLE III.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting as aforesaid, engages to secure to her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte Augusta, the annual sum of sixty thousand pounds, to be paid to her during her life, in case her Royal Highness shall survive his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thuringuen, Prince of Cobourg of Saalfeld, &c. &c. &c., such annual sum, to commence in payment from the death of his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thuringuen, Prince of Cobourg of Saalfeld, &c. &c. &c., in the lifetime of her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte Augusta, and to be paid quarterly; and the first quarterly payment is to be made at the end of three calendar months, after such his decease, when the said annuity, payable during their joint lives, is to determine.

And his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, so acting as aforesaid, further engages to secure to his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thuringuen, Prince of Cobourg of Saalfeld, &c. &c. &c., the annual sum of fifty thousand pounds, to be paid to him during his life, in case he shall survive her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte Augusta; such annual sum to commence in payment from the death of her Royal Highness, in the lifetime of his Royal Highness, and to be paid quarterly; and the first quarterly payment to be made at the end of three calendar months after such her decease, when the said annuity, payable during their joint lives, is to determine.

ARTICLE IV.

The son or daughter, or descendant of the said marriage for the time being, next in succession to the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, after the Princess Charlotte Augusta, shall be brought up in such manner as his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or his

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successors may be pleased to direct; and no children of this marriage shall be allowed to marry without the consent of his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or his successors for the time being.

ARTICLE V.

It is understood and agreed that her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte Augusta shall not, at any time, leave the United Kingdom without the permission, in writing, of his Majesty, or of the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, and without her Royal Highness's own consent.

And in the event of her Royal Highness being absent from this country, in consequence of the permission of his Majesty, or of the Prince Regent, and of her own consent, such residence abroad shall, in no case be protracted beyond the term approved by his Majesty, or the Prince Regent, and consented to by her Royal Highness. And it shall be competent for her Royal Highness to return to this country before the expiration of such term, either in consequence of directions for that purpose, in writing, from his Majesty, or from the Prince Regent, or at her own pleasure.

ARTICLE VI.

This treaty shall be ratified by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, on the behalf of his Majesty, and by his said Serene Highness, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in ten days, or sooner, if possible.

In witness whereof, the respective plenipotentiaries have signed it, and have affixed thereunto the seals of their arms.

Done at London the thirteenth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen.

(*L. S.*) *C. Cantuar.*
(*L. S.*) *Eldon, C.*
(*L. S.*) *Harrowby, P.*
(*L. S.*) *Bathurst.*
(*L. S.*) *Liverpool.*
(*L. S.*) *Castlereagh.*
(*L. S.*) *Sidmouth.*
(*L. S.*) *N. Vansittart.*
(*L. S.*) *Baron de Just.*

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ADDITIONAL ARTICLE.

It is hereby expressly declared, that no article or provision, contained in the treaty of marriage signed this day, shall, in any manner, be taken, or deemed to affect, or prejudice any right or prerogative of his Majesty, his heirs or successors, touching or concerning the education or marriages of any of the children or descendants of her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte Augusta, or the education or marriages of any of the Royal Family or their descendants.

The present additional Article shall have the same force and effect, as if it were inserted, word for word, in the treaty of marriage signed this day. It shall be included in the ratification of the said treaty.

In witness whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at London, the 13th day of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen.

(*L. S.*) *C. Cantuar.*
(*L. S.*) *Eldon, C.*
(*L. S.*) *Harrowby, P.*
(*L. S.*) *Bathurst.*
(*L. S.*) *Liverpool.*
(*L. S.*) *Castlereagh.*
(*L. S.*) *Sidmouth.*
(*L. S.*) *N. Vansittart.*
(*L. S.*) *Baron de Just.*

There is one singularity attending this marriage settlement, which admits of some observation. It was signed by all the cabinet ministers on the 13th of March, and the signature of N. Vansittart, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, appears the last on the list. By this document, the ministers placed his Royal Highness the Prince Regent in rather

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an unpleasant predicament. They affix their signature to an important instrument, in which his Royal Highness lays himself under the promise of securing 60,000*l.* a year to the Princess Charlotte, which 60,000*l.* could only be secured by a grant of Parliament; and, on the 13th of March, when the treaty was signed by the ministers, no application whatever had been made to Parliament for any annual allowance to the Princess Charlotte, in consequence of her approaching marriage. It was not till the 15th of March, two days after the signature of the treaty, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer applies to Parliament, for the grant of that allowance to the Princess Charlotte, which, by a document then in existence, himself in conjunction with all the rest of the cabinet ministers, had, on their responsibility alone, and without any appeal to that part of the legislative power, by which only the grant could be allowed, subjected his Royal Highness to a promise, from the performance of which Parliament had it in its power to prevent him. An application to Parliament for pecuniary grants, although backed by all the influence of ministers, is not always successful; and for the purpose of elucidating this subject, let the position be stated, that the Prince Regent had, by the advice of his ministers promised that 6000*l.* a year should be granted to the Duke of Cumberland from the consolidated fund; and that ministers, in the plenitude of their promises by anticipation, had, as a mere matter of

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form, and without the slightest suspicion of any opposition to the grant, carried a royal message to Parliament, calling upon it to confirm the royal promise. The result of that application placed ministers in the very pillory of embarrassment, in which they all went round and round, not being able to look each other in the face, and with the pain of their awkward situation still smarting upon their memory, it would have been much safer and more decorous in them, and far more congenial to the true principles of the British Constitution, had they awaited the result of the application to Parliament, before they had affixed their signatures to the treaty, and not laid themselves at that time under an obligation to give what they must be well aware could have been refused them.

On the 25th of March, the Earl of Liverpool presented in the House of Lords, a bill for the naturalization of Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, on which occasion, the standing orders of the House were suspended, that the progress of the bill might not be retarded. On the following day, it passed through all its stages, and was sent to the Commons, where it was passed and received the royal assent on the following day, the commissioners being the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Melville.

Prince Leopold being now naturalized, it was intended that he should be called up to the House of Peers, by the title of the Duke of Kendal; by which creation the Princess Charlotte of Wales,

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heiress presumptive to the throne, would lose her former rank, and become simply Duchess of Kendal, a title only known in this country by having been conferred on the German Princess of George I.

On mature consideration, many weighty objections appeared to the adoption of this measure; and the country certainly would not have been satisfied had it taken place. It would have required some explanation, why her Royal Highness should have been obliged to relinquish for herself her present title as a Princess, in order to assume that of a Duchess, to which her birth and destination have rendered her superior. If it were alleged that it was proposed, because her intended husband could not be raised to an equal elevation with herself, as a Prince of England, it might have been fairly suggested, that, being a Prince already, his title could never have been mistaken for that of any of the English Princes, who were there all addressed as Dukes Royal; and the addition of his title of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld would always secure the distinction. But, if in this measure it was designed that the Princess Charlotte should descend to a level with her husband, it may be answered, that the instances are numerous among our English nobility, where a lady of quality marries a nobleman of inferior rank, and yet retains her former title. The heralds certainly would not find more difficulty in announcing the Princess Charlotte of Wales and Prince of Saxe-Coburg,

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Saalfeld, than they have in announcing her Grace the Duchess of Dorset and Lord Whitworth.

England will ever be proud of the reigning family, and will uphold them in their illustrious station, and be generously tenacious that neither disrespect abroad, nor the loss of distinction at home, should ever level the sense it entertains and cherishes of the tribute which is justly due to all of them, at the same time duly appreciating the high character of the Prince, who has been chosen as the husband of the Princess Charlotte. It would not have afforded that entire satisfaction which the nuptials ought to have created, if the Princess had, in any of the greater or the minuter arrangements, been taken one step from the exalted station which she filled, and which she was most eminently calculated to adorn.

But there is another observation which naturally arose from the intended title, and which is well worthy of consideration. The town of Kendal, in Westmorland, which takes its name from a small river called the Can or Ken, has neither size nor population, nor extent of opulence, to recommend it so highly as to become the designation of this illustrious marriage. Prince Leopold, having become a naturalized subject of the United Kingdom, would, soon after his creation, take his seat in the House of Lords, and would, no doubt, be introduced there by two of the dukes of the blood royal; but they are all dukes of large and important counties in England, which have been hitherto

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reserved for such high-born men. The husband of the presumptive heiress to the throne must, therefore, have either taken his seat below them, unless, by the recent act of naturalization, it were provided, that he should occupy a place either above, or even with, or next to them; in all of which cases he would be allowed a station superior to his rank as Duke of Kendal; and, therefore, inconsistent with a due course of legal and also of heraldic precedency. The King having no brothers nor uncles, nor their wives living, his grand-daughter takes her station next after the Duchess of Cumberland, her grace following the Duchess of York, who are the only wives of the King's sons. But the title of Kendal, which has been for some years extinct, has a history attached to it, which would be deemed rather ill-suited for a gift to a new subject of high birth, and to a daughter upon her marriage. The mistress of George I., and the object of his partiality, was sent for very soon after he was called to the throne of these realms, and, upon her arrival, was created Duchess of Kendal. She was Evengart Melusina, Duchess of Munster; and, on the 1st of May, 1715, was created a baroness, countess, and Duchess of Great Britain, by the titles of Baroness of Glastonbury, Countess of Feversham, and Duchess of Kendal; and those titles became extinct by her death in 1743. Whatever may have been her conduct in such a station of high favor, this fact does not seem to a plain thinking

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Englishman, as the proper and most delicate offering at the shrine of innocence and virtue, just opening to the blushing honors of life, of dignity, and of marriage.

It is certain that these objections to the assumption of Prince Leopold of the title of the Duke of Kendal, were at that time urged with all due force, and it was reported, that it was finally relinquished at the particular desire of the Princess Charlotte; but, granting that her wishes may have co-operated in bringing about the decision which was then formed, it is certain that there were so many political objections to it, that the grant of the title would not have taken place, had her influence been wholly dormant.

In the mean time the leisure hours of Prince Leopold were not spent in frivolous pursuits; the greater portion of the day being devoted to the study of the English language, its history, laws, customs, and manners. He was generally attended in his studies by the Rev. J. S. Clarke; and although his Highness was not able to surmount the difficulty attending the acquirement of the pronunciation of the language, he, nevertheless, soon obtained that proficiency in the construction of it, which enabled him to relish the beauties of our best prose writers; and he expressed his determination not to desist from the study of the language, until he was enabled to peruse the works of Milton and of Shakespeare.

The mind of Prince Leopold had not been spoiled in the lap of indolence nor inactivity. During his travels he had frequent opportunities of tracing the

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progress of the arts, of contrasting the various manners of the people amongst whom he resided, and of becoming intimately acquainted with the internal policy, and political institutions of the majority of the European states. The governing should often place themselves amongst the governed; and this is only to be effected by a temporary residence in foreign countries, where, becoming amenable to their respective laws, their weakness or their strength, their excellencies or their injustice become individually felt; and a discriminating mind will, on a selection of their respective excellencies, erect a political constitution, by which a proper degree of power is given to the governing, at the same time that the rights of the governed are protected and supported.

Prince Leopold brought with him to this country a well-grounded knowledge of the political constitutions of the continental states, in which the high aristocratical principles are predominant, and in which despotism holds its sovereign sway, without any wholesome counteraction to the decrees of the executive power. Of the injustice of such a government Prince Leopold had openly avowed his sentiments, considering it to be incompatible with that freedom to mankind which is the birthright of their nature; and from which alone the glory or the prosperity of a country can originate. In the study of the British constitution he saw a model of human ingenuity, and of political excellence, which he had never previously observed; and it excited a dignified pride in him, to have been selected as the husband of that illustrious female, who, under the force of

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such a constitution, was born to administer its blessings to the country.

Prince Leopold was not only a great admirer of the fine arts, but possessed such a degree of skill, as would do honor to a professional artist. His sketches, of views of the Rhine and of Germany, display the work of a master, and are mentioned in high terms of commendation, for accuracy, spirit, and elegance.

On the 4th of April the Queen held a drawing-room, at which it was rumoured that Prince Leopold was to be introduced to her Majesty, and that the Princess Charlotte was to be present. The concourse of persons, assembled to view the illustrious pair, was beyond all former example; but disappointment ensued, for it was announced, that the indisposition of Prince Leopold prevented his attendance. This, however, was subsequently discovered not to be the real cause for the accounts from Brighton, on the following day, represented his Highness as enjoying a ride in good health with Colonel Addenbroke; and, therefore, as some other cause must be immediately assigned, it was most gravely stated, that his Serene Highness was so deeply immersed in the study of the English language, that his attendance at the drawing-room would necessarily create a chasm in his studies, which he was at that time prosecuting with uncommon vigour. A person in the dark may by chance stumble upon the object of which he is in search, but the chances are one hundred to one against him that he stumbles upon twenty objects which he does not want, before he falls upon that which is the

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right one. This comparison is strictly applicable to the journalists, who, being in the dark respecting the cause of certain events, flounder about in the wilds of conjecture, until some mischievous *ignis fatuus* leads them into the sloughs of error, and then sends them forth into the world inflated with falsehood and misrepresentation. It was neither indisposition nor the study of the English language which detained Prince Leopold from the drawing-room, but the arbitrary laws of etiquette, which up to that time had not been so fully adhered to as to authorize his introduction to her Majesty.

The preparations for the approaching nuptials were now carried on with incessant activity, and the 18th of April was the day appointed for their consummation; it was, however, subsequently postponed. The domestics who were employed on the establishment at Warwick-House were sent for, and were all promoted on the new establishment of the Princess Charlotte. This was done at her own immediate desire, and gave rise to many comments at the time, and which assumed a complexion according to the party views of the individual who promulgated them: At all events, it exhibited a pleasing feature in the character of the Princess Charlotte, and must have been highly flattering to the individuals, who, by their conduct, had rendered themselves worthy of her distinguished choice. The applications to her Royal Highness, at this time, for the appointment of lady to the bedchamber amounted to 574, and for that of lady in waiting to 279.

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The jewellery destined for the nuptials was in a state of great forwardness, and the royal mantle was completed. It is the etiquette of the royal princesses to wear a superb mantle at their marriage, which is afterwards the perquisite of the lady in waiting; but, *after* the mantle was made, it was discovered that it is only a king's *daughter* who is entitled to the distinction of the mantle: the Princess Charlotte, however, being only the *grand-daughter*, could not, in strict conformity with etiquette, and without infringing on the privileges of the King's daughters, be married in the royal mantle. This is certainly a distinction not without a difference, but the latter is so slight, that as the expense of the mantle had been incurred, the etiquette might have been waved; and, especially, as the mantle was carefully laid by, there was at that time no immediate prospect of its being called into use by any of the King's daughters.

On the 6th, Sir Benjamin Bloomfield carried the determination respecting the marriage to his Serene Highness at Brighton; and, on the 7th he left that place for the Stud House, in Hampton Park, which was fixed upon as his place of residence until the nuptials. The Prince Regent, at three o'clock on the same day, left town for Hampton-Court, to dine with his Serene Highness.

One of the principal reasons for the short excursion of his Serene Highness to Hampton-Court, was to inspect the magnificent seat of Claremont, situated a short distance from Esher. His Highness was much delighted with the situation, as a country resi-

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dence, and arrangements were immediately entered into to gratify his Highness and the Princess Charlotte; it being their decided wish, and originating wholly with themselves, to have a country residence, their pursuits leading them more to the tranquil joys of rural scenery, and to the enjoyments of domestic life, than to the more noisy and unsubstantial pleasures of a town residence.

Claremont, the then reported residence of the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, has been long a distinguished spot. The first modern house built there was by Sir John Vanbrugh; it was of brick and of considerable extent. The architect resided in it himself, till he sold it to the Duke of Newcastle, (the minister,) who erected a grand room for the reception of company, without regard to the proportions of the house. Lord Clive afterwards became the possessor, pulled the whole down, and built the present residence, which is rather elegant than noble, but which stands in the midst of grounds that would dignify as well as adorn any mansion. Lord and Lady Clive, however, never resided there; the house was afterwards tenanted by Lord and Lady Galway, and to them succeeded Lord Tyrconnel, who sold the whole property, timber included, to Mr. Ellis, (M. P. for Seaford) for 22,000*l.**

* A singular report having been raised of a fatality attending the ladies who have resided at Claremont, it became, after the lamented decease of the Princess Charlotte, an object of inquiry; and it was ascertained that there was no good foundation

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The arrangement for the purchase of this new celebrated mansion not having been at this particular period finally entered into, this introductory notice of its history will be considered in this instance as sufficient.

On the 9th of April, a very long discussion took place in the House of Commons, relative to the establishment of the Princess Charlotte. At the commencement of the debate, the Chancellor of the Exchequer was not in the House, and Mr. Lushington declared, that it would have been presumption in him to have proposed the business in the absence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, had he not conceived that there would be an entire unanimity on the subject. Thus it appears, from the admission of Mr. Lushington himself, that ministers had no idea of that opposition to their proposed establishment of the Princess Charlotte, which, on this evening displayed itself. The chief merits of the opposition, however, hinged upon the allowance which had been formerly granted to the Princess Charlotte of 30,000*l.* a-year coming from the civil list, and now the 60,000*l.* to be

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for the report. Lady Galway resided there several years, and left it in good health. Lady Tyrconnel, after a residence there of many years, returned to the north, where her ladyship died. Mrs. Ellis was brought to Claremont in the summer of 1801, in very suspicious health, so much so, indeed, as to oblige her to pass the following winter in an artificial temperature. After the birth of her daughter, the present Miss Ellis, the family went, on account of Mrs. E's health, to Nice, where she died, and was buried in the church at Esher.

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voted for her establishment, was to come from the consolidated fund, making a difference in favor of the civil list of 30,000*l.* a-year. This, as it ceased to be paid to her Royal Highness, ought to revert to the civil list; and Mr. Brougham principally contended, that a clause should be introduced in the present bill, providing how the 30,000*l.* was to be disposed of, whether it was to go to the civil list, or to cease altogether. In answer to which, Lord Castlereagh stated, that part of it would go to the consolidated fund, and part of it to the civil list.

Mr. Tierney could only perceive by the estimates, that part of her Royal Highness's allowance was charged in the civil list, and part in the consolidated fund. The department of Lord Chamberlain and Lord Steward in her Royal Highness's establishment, was 12,000*l.* a-year, and he was not acquainted with all the other items, the estimates only went to the expenditure of 22,000*l.* He thought, that the ceasing of her Royal Highness's former establishment ought to reduce so much of the consolidated fund. But those were the notions of old times, and, like many other things of those periods, now forgotten. He considered, that the 6,000*l.* or 6,500*l.* a-year, her settled establishment, ought to be charged to the civil list, and paid over to the consolidated fund. Another point he wished to be informed on was, whether the rent of the town-house, fixed on for her Royal Highness was to be paid out of the establishment of 60,000*l.* a-year.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that it was.

Mr. Tierney further stated, that he did not believe

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the House had such a residence, as the one now taken for her Royal Highness, in contemplation, when they had so readily agreed to the establishment of 60,000*l.* a-year for her. They considered, that such an establishment would enable her to maintain a great degree of state; but the House now fixed on for her residence was not equal to such a purpose, and was only fit for a private gentleman. If her Royal Highness was to maintain only such a degree of state as this house was fit for, 60,000*l.* a-year was too much. It was entirely impossible that she should spend such a sum as 60,000*l.* a-year in such a house. It was with an expectation that she should maintain such a degree of state as was due to the nation over which she was one day to rule, that such an establishment had been unanimously consented to. But, for the same reason that he was liberal where it was necessary, and due to the dignity of the nation and its rulers, he would be economical where liberality was not necessary. He would at once ask, Whether it was, or was not intended, that the Princess should hold drawing-rooms after her marriage?

No answer was given to this question.

By the noble lord's silence, Mr. Tierney continued, he saw what a situation they were reduced to. Was it fit that the future Queen of England should live in such a state of privacy, as she would be obliged to live in, if Camelford-House were to be her residence? If her Royal Highness was to be immured, as she must be in Camelford-House, 60,000*l.* a-year would be much too large an establishment for her.

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Lord Castlereagh for himself was satisfied with shewing his attachment to her Royal Highness, by a liberal establishment. His right honorable friend was not authorized to propose any more for her establishment than 60,000*l.* a-year, and the town-house was to be provided for out of this, with a view that the liberality of the House might provide a country residence for her Royal Highness.

Mr. Tierney would not consent that the liberality of the House should be imposed on, to provide a country residence for her Royal Highness, while there were so many royal palaces unoccupied. As for a country house, besides all the palaces, where was Cranbourne Lodge, and where was the fanciful cottage that had cost so much? 60,000*l.* a-year was too much for her, if she was to lead a life of privacy. He considered it an indecent proposition to provide a country-house for her at the public expense, when she had such an establishment, and was to lead such a life.

Mr. Abercromby said, that though her Royal Highness was only presumptive heiress to the throne in point of law, she was, in point of fact and of substance, heiress apparent; and it was very unbecoming, that after her marriage, with such an establishment as 60,000*l.* a-year, she should lead a life of privacy. If she was to lead such a life, why was she allowed more than the Duchess of Cumberland?

Lord Castlereagh was not her Royal Highness's adviser as to her future regulations.

Mr. Brougham contended, that the Princess Charlotte should not be allowed 60,000*l.* a-year for a life.

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of privacy, when the King's own daughters were allowed only 20,000*l.* a-year.

This discussion was protracted to a considerable length, but the blank in the bill was finally filled up with 60,000*l.* a-year, the report was received and the bill read a third time and passed.

It is evident, that the objection manifested by opposition to the grant of 60,000*l.* a-year for the Princess Charlotte's establishment, arose not so much from the magnitude of the grant, as from the manner of its application. But setting aside the wishes of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte and of Prince Leopold for a life of privacy, and which certainly ought to carry with them no trifling weight in the consideration of the subject; there were positive objections existing at the time against her Royal Highness assuming that degree of state to which her birth might be supposed to entitle her. As to her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte holding a drawing-room after her marriage, as suggested by Mr. Tierney, it is perfectly inexplicable, in what manner such a preposterous idea could have intruded itself into the head of an individual, who with the most shining talents, combines a most accurate knowledge of the constitutional forms of the country. Mr. Tierney never could be suspected, notwithstanding his ardent love of royalty, of a desire to place two queens on the throne of England; or, in other words, to erect two thrones, one for the Queen that is, and the other for the Queen that is to be. Perhaps the formation of a court for the Princess Charlotte, and without which she could not hold her drawing-rooms,

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would not have been displeasing to the right honorable gentleman; for, there being no place vacant for him at the old established court, some chance might exist of his creeping into one in the junior court; and then there is little doubt but that the dimensions of Camelford-House would have been found amply sufficient for the establishment of the Princess Charlotte's court. From the very ceremonious manner in which the right honorable gentleman always speaks of royalty, he might, with great propriety, and without placing him in the mortifying dilemma of being obliged to blush at such honors being conferred undeservedly, be appointed to the office of master of the ceremonies, and then, with the proudest emotion of royalty, he would introduce her Majesty the Queen of England at the court of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales and of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld. But if it be regarded in another point of view, and in one much more consistent with the feelings of the right honorable gentleman, it may be fairly suggested, that the idea of the Princess Charlotte holding a drawing-room, to be conducted with all the pomp of royalty, could not have arisen from any other motive, than that of the most genuine sympathy, arising from the very acute pain which he always felt in the *description* of the great fatigue which her Majesty the Queen necessarily experienced at her advanced age, in performing the ceremonious duties of a drawing-room; and, therefore, as the Lord Chancellor had a vice appointed, as a relief to his arduous duties, he, actuated by the most humane and philanthropic spirit, saw no

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possible objection to the establishment of a vice to her Majesty, in addition to the many *vices* which he, in the plenitude of his generosity, had already conferred upon her Majesty. A vice regal court became, therefore, a great desideratum; and, as the Princess Charlotte had, in his opinion, manifested such a vicious tendency to retirement, incompatible with the dignity of royalty, in which, to quote his own words, she could not *possibly* expend 60,000*l.* a year; having, in his calculations, entirely forgotten acts of charity, the clothing of the poor, the maintenance of the orphan and the widow, the establishment of schools; which actions, being of such an opaque nature, that not a ray of splendor could ever emanate from them,—it became a natural suggestion, that the Princess Charlotte should be obliged to expend her 60,000*l.* a year, not according to her own wishes, but in a manner to be prescribed to her by others; and to be accompanied with an exuberant display of splendor, which was to consist in the continual rattling of the wheels of her carriage—in the preposterous disguise of her beautiful person in a hoop—in continually knocking at the doors of others, and having her own knocked at continually in return—in metamorphosing night into day, and day into night: and, lastly, in the holding of a drawing-room, the splendor of which was to be exalted by the presence of the right honorable gentleman himself. As to the manner in which the Princess Charlotte was to live after her marriage, there was no law of the land which could dictate to her any positive line of conduct, or which could oblige her to

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live within a prescribed circle of state and splendor. The law acknowledged her only as the heiress presumptive to the crown, but did not invest her with any of the rights of royalty, when in full possession of its power. It is very necessary that a high degree of pomp should accompany the executive monarch, commensurate with the power and the riches of the country over which he reigns; and few countries have so amply provided for the grandeur of their kings as England. The nation also provides, that the monarch in succession shall be enabled to support the splendor to which his station entitles him; but it leaves the choice of that splendor to the individual himself, and forces him not to adopt another in which the happiness of his life may be destroyed. The splendor chosen by the Princess Charlotte was that of a dignified retirement, it was the true *otium cum dignitate;* and the illustrious female, conscious of the high destiny to which she was born, considered that she fulfilled the duties of her station with greater exactness in making herself acquainted with the laws and institutions of her country, in the promotion of religious principles, and in the encouragement of the arts and sciences, than in exacting the stare of the passing crowd by the splendor of her equipage or the richness of her attire. The Princess Charlotte, young as she was, had witnessed instances of excess in royal establishments, which did not fail to produce in her mind the observation and reflection necessary to complete the happiness of one placed in so elevated a state, and

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connected by the best and dearest ties and relations with the British nation. The lavish expenditure of an extensive income prevents even greatness itself from exercising some of its finest attributes and qualities, plunges it into a self-indulgence that generates difficulties and embarrassments which are rarely or never surmounted, and induces an habitual feeling of false security against all disapprobation or control; for this luxury, this show of pomp, it often pays the painful cost of the people's respect and love. The Princess Charlotte, although born in the lap of royal affluence, had yet tasted of affliction; and it impressed upon her mind a strong bias of reflection, which enabled her to appreciate the intrinsic value of things, and not to be seduced by adventitious ornament, or the false glare of superfluous decoration. Though of a young and tender age, she had not to learn that royal splendor has its bounds and limits; and, she did not require the aid of instruction to teach her, that her exalted station derived its purest lustre from true moderation, which is in every respect more calculated to attract and secure the pure love and zealous homage which beat in the heart of a nation, than all the outward forms and gaudy trappings of courtly pomp and magnificence.

It must, however, be admitted on all sides, that Parliament adopted the wisest course, in fixing the establishment of the Princess Charlotte at once at a maximum; thereby preventing any future application for an increase of income, or exposing the illustrious

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parties to the unpleasant alternative of contracting debts, in order to keep up even that degree of state to which they had determined to conform.

In this respect, the ministers had a precedent very much in point, for, on the marriage of Queen Anne, when Princess, with Prince George of Denmark, a small annuity was settled upon her husband. The consequence was, that in the second year of her accession to the throne, she sent the following message to Parliament, and they granted the Prince a hundred thousand pounds a-year, should he survive her :—

"ANNE R.

"Her Majesty, considering that there is but a very small provision made for the Prince her husband, if he shall survive her Majesty, and that her Majesty is restrained from increasing the same by the late act of parliament for settling her income, thinks it necessary to recommend the making further provision for the Prince, to your consideration."

In the speech at the close of the Session, the Queen thus acknowledged the grant :—

"I must further take notice to you, that the readiness you have shewn in the provision made for the Prince, is a very sensible obligation*."

In the House of Lords, Earl Darnley and Lord Holland used the same arguments against the grant

* I am not aware what was the amount of the first annuity granted to Prince George. It was probably something charged by Charles II. upon the crown lands, for there was no message to Parliament upon the occasion of the marriage.

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of 60,000*l.* as were used by the opposition members in the House of Commons; they were, however, all overruled, and the bill was ultimately passed.

The stay of Prince Leopold at Hampton-Court was very short; on the 9th he returned to Brighton, but it was then understood that his establishment at that place was to be given up in the course of the following week.

During the course of these proceedings, no difference appeared to take place in the manner of life of the Princess Charlotte. She visited the Royal Family at Windsor, and was visited by them in return; and, she appeared rather a subordinate character in the great drama which was then acting, than a principal. The forms of etiquette are seldom allied to the principles of common sense, or hold any relationship with the dictates of reason. In the humbler walks of life, the purest happiness of which the human heart is susceptible, is felt in the society of the object of our affections, and every opportunity is eagerly embraced which can bring us into the presence of that object; but it is an enigma, not to be solved by the common rules of human actions, why, in the royal circle, two individuals destined for each other, should be as rigidly and scrupulously prevented from meeting, as if, instead of giving them an opportunity of testifying their affections for each other, a fear existed, that some quarrel would ensue, which might ultimately be the means of breaking off the union. The Princess, destined in a few days to give her hand in marriage to an individual selected by herself and

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approved of by her country, was obliged to move in a particular orbit in to which that individual did not dare to enter; as if by their conjunction some baneful influence might be exerted on the body politic of the nation; and if, by some eccentric impulse, their motions should happen to digress into the same orbit, it was but momentary, for we immediately beheld them flying off again in a tangent, and like Uranus, moving cheerlessly in a distant sphere, where the influence of the power which gives life and activity to creation, is deadened by the distance through which it passes.

Etiquette certainly requires a positive sacrifice of personal feeling; but in the case above alluded to, it would be "honored more in the breach than in the observance."

On the 10th of April, Mr. Phillips, the newly appointed steward to the household of the Princess Charlotte, took possession of Camelford-House; and the most strenuous exertions were made, to render it in every respect, a suitable residence for the illustrious couple.

An arrangement took place, at the same time, in regard to the state liveries of the Princess Charlotte; and it was determined, that they should be of dark bottle-green cloth, as well as the frocks, and were to be decorated in every respect as the Prince Regent's servants, with gold lace on the coat. The waistcoats and breeches were to be of fine white cloth. Although the carriages for the royal pair were then building, the linings, ornaments, and decorations were not then finally settled.

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Official notice was now sent to the foreign ambassadors, and other distinguished personages, that the marriage between the Princess Charlotte of Wales and his Serene Highness Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld would be solemnized on the 2d of May. From that moment expectation was upon tiptoe, and the great political questions of the day lost their interest in the anticipated splendor of the approaching nuptials.*

During the residence of Prince Leopold at Brighton, his general conduct had so gained upon the esteem and confidence of the inhabitants, that he may

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* The English have gained, and certainly in many instances they truly deserve, the character of a phlegmatic people. They are long before they are roused to action, but when they once take an interest in an event, they follow it through all its ramifications with a warmth and zeal not to be surpassed by any of the more sanguine natives of a happier climate. Eccentricity of conduct, the concomitant of an exuberant imagination, and of a false association of objects, may, in the abstract, display itself daily before the eyes of the penetrating observer; but in the aggregate, it is only exhibited on those occasions which are rendered conspicuous by their novelty and their rarity. Thus the marriage of the Princess Charlotte was no sooner positively fixed for the 2d of May, than many couples who before were anxious to be bound by the ties of Hymen, postponed the happy day till the 2d; and many who had fixed on a later period, broke their resolutions, and were determined to be married on the same day as the Princess Charlotte. It has been computed, that the couples married on the 2d of May, amounted to 774; 550 of which had issue before the February following, 156 in March and April, and 20 in May and June. Of the remainder no information has been received.

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be literally said to have attained the highest possible degree of popularity. The indifferent state of his health prevented him from entering largely into the amusements of the place, but he collected a group of distinguished individuals around him, with whom he passed his evenings in the rational enjoyment of music, or in a free discussion on the laws and literature of the country, on both of which topics he always exhibited an uncommon desire for information. One evening the conversation turned upon the German translation of Shakespeare by Schlegel; and it was contended by one of the company present, that the translator had infused into his work the genuine spirit of the author, and that, with the exception of the translation of Hudibras, considered for a long time as positively untranslateable,—Schlegel's translation of Shakespeare must be considered as one of the *chef-d'œuvres* of the present day. His Serene Highness admitted that Schlegel had performed his task with uncommon ability; but still that his translation was marked by some gross and unpardonable errors. This position was not admitted by the contending party; on which his Serene Highness placed a volume of the German translation, in which was the tragedy of Macbeth, into the hands of his opponent, and desired him to read the invocation of the witches to Macbeth. He accordingly began; *Alle Hagel* *;—but he could not

* To render this intelligible, it must be stated, that *Hagel*, in the German language is synonymous with our Hail, the produce of the elements; and, consequently, the translation of All Hail!—Alle Hagel! perverted the meaning, and threw an air of ridicule over the whole sentence.

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proceed, and yielded the point to the critical acumen of his Highness.

In conformity to the advice of Dr. Tierney, his Highness took the benefit of the warm bath on every alternate day, which tended in a great degree to strengthen and restore the stamina of his constitution, that had suffered severely in the last memorable campaign, and which never could have been repaired had the inclination of his Highness led him to pursue a gay and dissipated life. He, however, experienced no delight in being continually whirled about in the vortex of pleasure, nor in becoming a votary of fashion, which, in other words, is to lead a life of inanity and listless insignificance. But let it not be thought that his dispositions were cynical, or that he was so churlish, as to despise the rational pleasures of human life. In the same manner as the bow loses its elasticity by being constantly strung, so the human mind loses it zest for pleasure when continually exposed to the enjoyment of it. The happiness of man is confirmed and established by contrast; he who never experienced fatigue never enjoyed the sweets of repose; and he who never dwelt with adversity, knows not how to estimate the presence of prosperity.

But Prince Leopold had been bred in the school of adversity; and he so deported himself in prosperity that should the former again overtake him, he could meet it with fortitude and resignation.

Early in the morning of the 22d his Serene Highness left Brighton and arrived at Windsor Castle in the afternoon. The Princess Charlotte of Wales, attended by the Countess of Ilchester and Colonel Ad-

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denbroke, arrived in her carriage at the Castle about nine o'clock to meet his Highness to dinner with the Queen and Princesses.

From this meeting may be dated an almost uninterrupted intercourse between the illustrious couple. Prince Leopold took up his residence at the upper lodge during his stay at Windsor, and the Princess Charlotte generally drove from Cranbourne-Lodge to dine with the royal party at the Castle, in which Prince Leopold was always included.

The 25th being the Princess Mary's birth-day, the Prince Regent arrived at Windsor, to be present at the celebration of it. His Royal Highness was received by his royal Daughter, the Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld, the Queen, Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, and Mary; and also by the Duke and Duchess of York, and the Dukes of Clarence and Kent.

The whole of this numerous assemblage of the Royal Family dined at Frogmore, where a grand entertainment was given by her Majesty upon the occasion, to which a select party of distinguished characters were invited.

The Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld was in constant attendance upon the Princess Charlotte of Wales, and the Prince Regent often mixed in their society.

On the 29th Lord James Murray, the lord in waiting, attached to the Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld, and Robert Chester, Esq., the attendant master of the ceremonies, left London for the country resi-

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dence of Sir Joseph Banks, on Smallberry-Green, near Hounslow, for the purpose of receiving the Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld there, and conducting his Serene Highness in state to London.

Her Majesty, Princesses Elizabeth and Mary, arrived at the Queen's Palace from Windsor, at noon on the same day. Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, attended by the Countess of Ilchester and Colonel Addenbroke, arrived in an open carriage, drawn by four beautiful bays, at Carlton-House, at half-past one o'clock.

The Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld and suite left Windsor on the same day, before eleven o'clock, in two of the Prince Regent's travelling carriages, and arrived at the house of Sir Joseph Banks on Smallberry-Green, about twelve, where his Serene Highness was received with every mark of respect, and a most sumptuous repast provided for his refreshment. A little after two o'clock, his Serene Highness entered a dress carriage of the Prince Regent, drawn by a set of six beautiful bays, to proceed to London in state, the coachmen, postilion, footmen, and outriders, in their state liveries, preceded by the Prince Regent's state coachman on horseback. His Serene Highness's suite travelled in another carriage. They arrived at Clarence-House, St. James's Palace, at half-past three o'clock.

Lord James Murray proceeded to Carlton-House soon after to inform the Prince Regent of the arrival of his Serene Highness. The Prince Regent in-

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return sent the Marquis of Winchester to congratulate the Prince upon his arrival in London.

The arrival of his Serene Highness having been communicated to the Queen, Princesses, and the Duke of York, Mr. Desbrow, vice-chamberlain to the Queen, Sir Edward Stopford, attendant on the Princesses, and Colonel Cook, aid-de-camp to the Duke of York, were sent to congratulate his Serene Highness.

On the 30th, Clarence-House was thronged with numerous inquirers. The Lord Chancellor with the mace and in state, the Master of the Rolls, the Bishop of Salisbury, Count Munster, and others, were introduced to the Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld. Vast crowds continued in front of the house during the day, huzzaing, &c. His Serene Highness frequently appeared at the windows of the balcony on the first floor, to gratify the spectators, when repeated huzzas were given.

In the evening his Serene Highness had a party at dinner.

The Princess Charlotte of Wales received the compliments of a number of distinguished characters.

On the same day the Prince Regent held a court for the purpose of receiving the addresses of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge on the restoration of peace, at which the Prince of Saxe Coburg Saalfeld was formally introduced to his Royal Highness. Prince Leopold arrived about four o'clock in one of the Prince Regent's carriages. He was dressed in regimentals, decorated with a very brilliant Austrian order; the riband a light blue, watered. He was introduced to

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the Prince Regent in due form of court. His Serene Highness had a long conference with the Prince Regent. Soon after he entered, the Princess Charlotte left, to proceed to the Queen's Palace, to attend her Majesty's private court. The populace in the street received her Royal Highness with loud huzzas, as well as Prince Leopold. Her Royal Highness wore a purple silk dress, trimmed with white, and a most beautiful plume of white feathers.

At the close of the court at Carlton-House the Prince Regent left it, and proceeded to the Queen's Palace. His Royal Highness introduced the Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld according to court etiquette.

The Prince Regent stopped to dine with his royal mother and sisters. The Princess Charlotte returned to Warwick-House to dinner.

It was originally intended that the royal nuptials should be celebrated with comparative privacy, confining the ceremony to the Royal Family and the great officers of state, but it was subsequently determined that every degree of splendor should be given to this important act. The whole of the Queen's establishment, lords and ladies of the bedchamber, maids of honor, &c. &c., received directions to attend in full costume, and the utmost magnificence prevailed throughout the royal establishments. The Prince Regent, the Commander in Chief, the Princesses, and Royal Dukes, all issued orders to that effect. The heads of every great public department, and the foreign ambassadors maintained a corresponding dignity.

On the day previous to the marriage Prince

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Leopold went to Camelford-House, and arrived in time to receive the Queen, the Princess Mary, and the Princess Charlotte of Wales, attended by the Countess of Cardigan, in whose carriage they rode for the sake of privacy. They proceeded to inspect the house, and continued to do so for about two hours. It was found to be very inconvenient, and objectionable in many respects. The entrance from Oxford-street is extremely unpleasant. It has but one staircase, and that a very common one, very narrow and very low. It is only one story high. It has a court-yard, it is true, but that is completely exposed to Hereford-street. The Prince returned to Clarence-House, where he was received with acclamations by a crowd collected round the house; he afterwards continued to appear frequently at the window of the balcony, to gratify the curiosity of the spectators, till seven o'clock, when he retired to dinner, at which he entertained the foreign ambassadors and ministers.

The following were the preliminary arrangements for the royal nuptials, the ceremony to be as public as certain circumstances could render it.—About fifty of the most distinguished personages to attend, besides the Royal Family, consisting of the Queen, the Prince Regent, the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sophia, the Duchess of York, and the rest of the Royal House. All the members of the cabinet, with their ladies; the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the foreign ambassadors, and no other persons. In one of the crimson state rooms, the cabinet and foreign ministers were to be assembled; in another room, the Queen

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and the Princesses; in the third, the Prince Regent and his great officers of state.

A grand dinner was to be prepared at Carlton-House, after which the ceremony of the marriage, to take place about nine o'clock, in the state chamber of the palace, where the Prince Regent receives the addresses; the marriage ceremony to be performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and afterwards attested with the usual formalities*. Her Majesty, the Prince Regent, the bride and bridegroom, and the great officers of state, were to return to the council-chamber, when they and the foreign ministers would pay their compliments to the illustrious pair, who were soon afterwards to leave Carlton-House.

After the visit to Camelford-House, the Queen and Princesses proceeded to inspect the wedding dresses of the Princess Charlotte, which consisted of the following:—

1. The wedding dress was a slip of white and silver atlas, worn under a dress of transparent silk net, elegantly embroidered in silver lama, with a border to correspond, tastefully worked in bunches of flowers, to form festoons round the bottom; the sleeves and neck trimmed with a most rich suit of Brussels point

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* The Paris papers at this time stated, under the head of Dresden,—"The intended marriage of Prince Leopold of Saxe Coburg Saalfeld, with the Princess Charlotte of Wales, has produced a more intimate connexion between that Court, and the Court of St. James's; and the King of Saxony will sign the marriage, as head of all the princes of the family of Saxe."

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lace. The mantua was two yards and a half long, made of rich silver and white atlas, trimmed the same as the dress to correspond. After the ceremony, her Royal Highness was to put on a dress of very rich white silk, trimmed with broad satin trimming at the bottom, at the top of which were two rows of broad Brussels point lace. The sleeves of this dress were short and full, intermixed with point lace, the neck trimmed with point to match. The pelisse which the royal Bride was to travel in, on her Royal Highness leaving Carlton-House for Oatlands, was of rich white satin, lined with sarcenet, and trimmed all round with broad ermine. Her Royal Highness had also the following dresses made up upon the happy occasion :—

2. A dress of white net, embroidered in gold lama, with an elegant border over white satin; the mantua of an extremely rich gold brocade, with blown roses, richly woven in very thickly all over the dress, and trimmed with broad gold lace.

3. A dress of transparent net, worked in bright and dead silver; the border, twelve inches deep, in scollops; at each scollop was placed a bunch of barley-corn, in bright and dead silver; the sleeves to match trimmed with point lace over white satin.

4. A silver tissue dress, trimmed with a rich trimming of silver lace and Brussels point.

5. A gold India-worked muslin, in small spots, very thick, and deep border to correspond, and trimmed profusely with Brussels point lace.

6. Another dress, similar to the former, only in sprigs.

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7, 8. Two Brussels point lace dresses, with border and trimming of point lace to match; the one cost 360 guineas, the other 300 guineas.

9, 10. Two dresses of British blond net, elegantly trimmed with blond, and another to wear over satin slips. There were, besides, several dresses of plain satin, handsomely trimmed with lace and net.

11. A morning dress of fine muslin, with three rows of broad Valenciennes lace, the flounce surmounted with broad footing to match; lace ruff, four breadths of the same, and cuffs to correspond.

12. A fine India muslin dress, with Mechlin lace; flounces, cuffs, and ruff of the same, and a lace cape, trimmed twice round.

13, 14. Two worked dresses for the occasion; very rich scollopped borders of four rows, quilled with net at the top of each row. Laced and worked muslin ruffs and cuffs to match.

Several other dresses, nearly similar.

THE JEWELLERY.

The jewellery was of the most magnificent description, consisting of a beautiful wreath for the head, composed of rose-buds and leaves, of the most superb brilliants; a necklace of a single row of large brilliants of the finest lustre, with large drop ear-rings to correspond, and a brilliant cestus of great value. Her Royal Highness had also a pearl necklace, and bracelets with diamond clasps, equally splendid. Her Royal Highness's casket contained other ornaments, consisting of coloured stones, richly encircled with

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jewels. She had, besides, a rich diamond armlet, presented by the Prince of Coburg Saalfeld.

It was computed that the wedding-dress alone cost above 10,000*l*.

The important day at length arrived, looked forward to by many with the most anxious wishes, and by the nation at large with the fondest hopes. Early in the morning, all the streets in the vicinity of the royal residences were crowded with people anxious to obtain a view of the royal bride and bridegroom. But the eager curiosity and anxious desire of the people to see the Prince, with whose person they had hitherto had but few opportunities of being acquainted, constituted the grand and prominent feature of public feeling. The line from Charing-Cross to Carlton-House, and those along the Mall in St. James's Park were fully occupied, and the fineness of the day corresponding with the interest of the occasion, contributed to increase the multitude. The open space in the Stable Yard, in front of Clarence-House, the residence of the Prince of Coburg Saalfeld, was crowded to excess with well dressed people of all classes. The repeated cheers, and other marks of applause which they expressed, evinced an impatient desire to see his Highness, who, in the most condescending and gentlemanlike manner, frequently complied with their wishes, by coming out upon the balcony and politely bowing to the people, all of whom had a full view of his person. From ten in the morning till five in the afternoon, with the exception of two hours, during which he rode out in his plain

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green chariot, he made his appearance three or four times in an hour on the balcony of the first floor. This kindness led very soon to a perfect understanding between him and the multitude who came to see him. As soon as a large number of persons were collected, they signified their anxiety to see his Highness by clapping their hands; when he immediately came forward, bareheaded, and after bowing and standing about a minute before them, retired into the room. The people then dispersed, and in about a quarter of an hour a fresh multitude was collected, who signified their wishes in the same manner as the preceding, and his Highness came forward to gratify them without delay. He was dressed in a blue coat, with a thin buff waistcoat, and grey pantaloons. His ready and cheerful exhibition of himself seemed to diffuse the highest satisfaction among the spectators, and exacted long before the close of the day a cordial familiarity. They gave him a hearty welcome, and his easy though modest manners shewed that he felt himself at home amongst them.

About ten o'clock some fine grey horses, chosen from a taste of the Princess for horses of that colour, were brought opposite the Duke of Clarence's. Prince Leopold came out to view them, and expressed himself highly pleased with them. They were then forwarded to the Duke of York's at Oatlands, where the Prince and Princess Charlotte were to retire after the nuptials. About two o'clock he went out in a curricle, and drove to Carlton-House, where his Highness paid a morning visit to the Princess Char-

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lotte. He rode through the court and stable-yard of Carlton-House, and inspected the new travelling carriage, prepared for him. He returned to the Duke of Clarence's about half-past three. On his arrival there, the crowd had increased so much, that his Highness experienced some little impediment, (not a disagreeable one, of course,) in getting out of his carriage; so much so that the footman, on letting him out, was nearly pressed to death. A number of women and children were forced into Clarence-House by the extreme pressure. In a few minutes after, his Serene Highness walked across to York-House. The crowd had become orderly, and at the request of a few attendants formed a clear passage for him to pass through, they loudly huzzaing him, and he bowing to the populace. His Serene Highness was formally introduced to the Duchess of York, by Robert Chester, Esq., the assistant master of the ceremonies, attended by Sir Robert Gardiner, his Highness's equerry. He dined at half-past five, at Clarence-House, where he entertained a select party of gentlemen. The Prince Regent's dinner party at Carlton-House comprised the Duke of Clarence, the Lord Chancellor, the Bishop of Exeter, the Right Honourable John M'Mahon, Sir Benjamin Bloomfield, the Rev. Mr. Blomberg, Mr. Leach (Chancellor of the Duchy of Cornwall), Sir E. Nagle, &c.

At the Queen's party, at Buckingham-House, were the Princess Charlotte, and the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth and Mary.

In the morning a guard of honor of the grenadiers of the foot guards, with the band of the Coldstream

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regiment in full dress, marched from the parade into Pall-mall, and the court-yard of Carlton-House, accompanied by Sir N. Conant and Mr. Birnie, the police magistrates, and about 50 police officers and constables to keep order in the public streets. The entrance-hall of Buckingham-House was filled with ladies and gentlemen, who were permitted to station themselves there to see the royal personages as they came out to their carriages. The Princess Sophia of Gloucester, arrived at the Queen's-Palace, about half-past seven, to accompany the rest of the Royal Family to the Prince Regent's.

The Princess Charlotte, who in the morning had sat to Turnerelli for her bust, dressed at Buckingham-House; and a few minutes before eight in the evening, she descended the grand stair-case, conducted by the Princess Augusta on her right and Colonel Stephenson on her left, and proceeded to the entrance of the grand hall, where she was met by the Queen. They entered a carriage; the Queen and the Princess Charlotte sat behind; Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth occupied the front, Princesses Mary and Sophia of Gloucester followed in another carriage: they were escorted by a party of life-guards. As may well be imagined, the crowd in the park exceeded all description. Their numerous appearance occasioned the Princess Charlotte to exclaim, "Bless me, what a crowd!" The people cheered her loudly all the way to Carlton-House, but the greatest order and decorum prevailed. The royal ladies entered Carlton-House, through the garden-gate, where they were most affec-

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tionately received by His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, at eight o'clock in the evening.

The Prince of Coburg Saalfeld quitted the Duke of Clarence's house, about half-past eight, with two royal carriages. In the first was Lord James Murray, lord in waiting to his Serene Highness; Colonel Adenbroke, his Serene Highness's secretary; and Sir Robert Gardner, his Serene Highness's equerry. In the other carriage was Prince Leopold, accompanied by Baron Just the Saxon minister at this court, and Mr. Chester the assistant master of the ceremonies. When his Highness came out to get into his carriage, great enthusiasm was manifested by the female spectators, whose hearty good wishes were not confined to the waving of handkerchiefs, or other ordinary expressions of congratulation; but proceeded to the homely though sincere declaration of the interest they felt in his hopes and future felicity, by approaching him closely, patting him on the back, and invoking upon him blessings of every description. Attempts were also made to take off the horses from the Prince's carriage, and draw him, in the accustomed spirit of English good-will, to Carlton-House. From these attempts, however, the populace were persuaded to desist, though Prince Leopold appeared perfectly ready to allow any indulgence which the joyful feelings of the populace inclined them to require. His Serene Highness received abundant proofs of public regard on his way to Carlton-House, in continual cheerings and congratulations; and, when he passed within the colonnade, the band played *God save the King*. A

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similar mark of attention was paid to the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke of Kent, and other royal personages, on their arrival. The attendants at Carlton-House, belonging to the royal household, guards, yeomen, footmen, &c., appeared in state costumes, and the great hall was brilliantly illuminated.

The following were the ceremonies within Carlton-House:—The Queen and Royal Family, his Highness the Duke of Orleans, and the Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld, were introduced to the Prince Regent, on their arrival, in his Royal Highness's private closet. The royal servants, &c., lined the apartments from the grand crimson saloon, where the marriage service was afterwards celebrated. The saloon had been prepared and fitted up for the occasion with an elegant temporary altar, suitable to the august ceremony, which was covered with crimson velvet, and placed near one of the fire-places. The crimson velvet cushions and the splendidly bound prayer-books, &c. were brought from the Chapel-Royal, St. James's, as well as the massy candlesticks, and other church plate from the military chapel at Whitehall. The serjeant of the Chapel-Royal attended also in his office of verger. The Prince Regent, and all the Royal Family, with his particular attendants, entered the three grand rooms next to the apartment in which the throne was erected. Her Majesty, with the female branches of the Royal Family, and their attendants, were conducted to the next anti-room. Among the attendants, were Lady John Murray and Lady Emily Murray,

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the cabinet ministers, the foreign ambassadors and envoys; and their ladies also attended by particular invitation, and proceeded to the grand crimson room.

At the time appointed for her Majesty to leave the closet, her full attendants were conducted across the grand hall; and also the full attendants upon the Prince Regent, except those in waiting upon the Queen and Prince Regent. The Princess Charlotte and Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld remained in the closet after the procession moved to the suit of rooms towards the altar.

The following is a List of the distinguished Personages who formed the procession:—

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury.
The Lord Chancellor and Lady Eldon.
The Earl of Harrowby, President of the Council, and his Lady.
The Countess of Liverpool, the Earl being absent on account of indisposition.
Earl Bathurst, Secretary of State for the War and Colonial Departments, and his Countess.
Viscount Castlereagh, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and his Viscountess.
Viscount Sidmouth, the Secretary of State for the Home Department.
The Right Hon. N. Vansittart, Chancellor of the Exchequer.
The Earl of Mulgrave, Master-General of the Ordnance, and his Countess.
The Earl of Westmorland, the Lord Privy Seal.
Viscount Melville, First Lord of the Admiralty, and his Viscountess.
The Right Hon. W. W. Pole, Master of the Mint, and Mrs. Pole.
The Right Hon. C. B. Bathurst, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

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The Marquis of Hertford, the Lord Chamberlain, and his Marchioness.

Viscount Jocelyn, Vice-Chamberlain.

The Marquis of Cholmondeley, the Lord Steward, and his Marchioness.

The Marquis of Winchester, Groom of the Stole, as the Lord in Waiting, and his Marchioness.

The other Lords of the Bed-Chamber.

The Right Hon. John M'Mahon, Keeper of the Privy Purse to the Prince Regent.

Colonel Stanhope, the Groom in Waiting.

The Duke of Montrose, Master of the Horse, was absent through indisposition, the Duchess was present.

The Captain of the Band of Pensioners.

The Earl of Winchilsea, Groom of the Stole to the King, and Comptroller-General of the Windsor Establishment.

Lord John Thynne, Deputy Comptroller of the Windsor Establishment.

Lord Somerville, and the Lords of the Bedchamber to the King.

The Grooms of the Bedchamber to the King.

The Archbishop of York, Lord High Almoner.

The Dean of the Chapel Royal.

The Equerries to the King.

The whole of the Attendants of the Queen and Princesses, and the Royal Dukes, and Duchess of York.

The Clerk of the Closet, the Rev. F. W. Blomberg.

The Rev. J. S. Clark, Librarian to the Prince Regent.

The Bishops of Salisbury, London, and Exeter.

Lord Ellenborough, (Lady Ellenborough was absent through indisposition.)

Earl of Harrington, Gold Stick;

Earl of Yarmouth, Silver Stick in waiting.

The Rev. Dr. Short.

Mr. Leach, Chancellor of the Duchy of Cornwall, in his full new robes.

General Hulse, Master of the Household.

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Mr. Watson, Assistant Private Secretary to the Prince Regent.
Viscount Keith, Deputy Earl Marshal.
Sir Benjamin Bloomfield, First Equerry and Clerk Marshal.
Equerries. General Hammond, Sir R. H. Vivian, General Bayley, Sir W. Congreve, Colonel Mellish, Honorable C. Percy, (Equerry to the Princess Charlotte,) and Colonel Palmer.
Aides-de-Camp. Colonel Quentin, Lord Forbes, Sir J. Wood, Sir John Colburn, Colonel A. G. Woodford, Honorable F. G. Ponsonby, Colonel J. E. Smith, Sir H. F. Bouverie, Honorable R. Craven, and Lord F. Somerset.
Admirals. Sir G. Martin, Sir E. Nagle, Lord A. Beauclerc, Sir E. Butler, Sir G. Campbell, Sir H. Blackwood, Sir J. Beresford, and Otway.

When the ceremony was to commence, the Lord Chamberlain returned to the closet, and conducted the Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld to the altar. His Lordship then went again to conduct the Princess Charlotte, and was accompanied by the Duke of Clarence, who conducted his royal niece, leaning upon his arm, to the altar, where she was received by the Prince Regent; his Royal Highness then took his place by the side of the illustrious pair. Behind the Royal Dukes stood the Lord Chancellor, Lords Castlereagh, Sidmouth, and Melville; the Earls of Westmorland, Harrowby, Mulgrave, and Bathurst; Mr. Vansittart, Mr. Bathurst, and Mr. Pole, the Cabinet Ministers. On the other side of the altar was the Queen, for whom a chair of state was placed. On her right hand, were the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, and Mary, the Duchess of York, and her Royal Highness the Princess Sophia of Gloucester. Behind her Majesty were her Lord and Vice Cham-

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berlains, and the Ladies of the Household. On the left of the altar, stood the Royal Dukes of York, Clarence, and Kent, (the Dukes of Cumberland and Sussex, and his Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester, were not present.) The Archbishop of Canterbury was close to the altar, and behind him the Archbishop of York; the Bishop of London was on the right of the altar, the Bishop of Exeter as Clerk of the Closet, and the Bishop of Salisbury the preceptor of the Princess Charlotte.

The Dukes of Orleans and Bourbon, the Foreign Ambassadors, and the great officers of the household, stood in front of the altar at some distance.

Two crimson velvet stools were placed in front of the altar.

The illustrious personages had all taken their stations by a little after nine o'clock, when the service began. The ceremony was then performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishop of London. The Princess Charlotte was given away by her Royal Father the Prince Regent. His Royal Highness appeared in excellent health. He was dressed in regimentals, and wore all his Orders. The Austrian Order of the Fleece was particularly brilliant.

The Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld wore at the wedding a full British uniform, decorated with the insignia of the new Hanoverian Order of the Guelphs, which was conferred upon him by the Prince Regent at the same time with the Duke of Wellington, Prince Blucher, Marquis of Anglesea, Lord Stewart, Prince Hardenberg, and Prince Metternich. He also wore

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the emblems of knighthood of Saxony, Austria, Russia, the Netherlands, Prussia, Bavaria, Wertemberg, and Denmark. His Serene Highness wore a magnificent sword and belt, ornamented with diamonds, and studded with various gems.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte advanced to the altar with steadiness, and went through the ceremony with a chastened joy, giving the responses with great clearness, so as to be heard distinctly by every person present. Prince Leopold was not heard so distinctly, and exhibited rather more than common diffidence.

On the termination of the marriage ceremony, the Princess Charlotte embraced her Father, and went up to the Queen, whose hand she kissed with great respect. She also kissed the Princesses, particularly distinguishing the Princess Mary; she then shook hands with her uncles, and retired arm-in-arm with the Prince her husband.

The ceremony was scarcely concluded, when the brazen throats of the guns on the parade of St. James's Park, and the battery of the Tower, announced in royal salutes, to the metropolis, the auspicious event.

The ladies who attended as bridemaids to the Princess Charlotte, were Lady Charlotte Cholmondeley, Lady Caroline Pratt, Lady Susan Ryder, the Hon. Miss Law, and Miss Manners, daughter of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The royal pair remained but a short time at Carlton-House after the ceremony was over, and set off

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about eleven o'clock for Oatlands, where they intended to reside during the honey-moon.

Her Majesty gave directions for bride-cakes, which had been preparing for some time, to be sent to the individuals of the royal establishments at the Queen's Palace, Windsor, her private establishment at Frogmore and at Kew Palace, amounting in the whole to nearly 500 persons, to commemorate the marriage of her royal grand-daughter.

On the occasion of the royal marriage the following lines were written by Robert Southey, Esq. :—

"Is this the Nuptial Song? with brow severe
Perchance the votaries of the world will say:
Are these fit strains for royal ears to hear?
What man is he who thus assorts his lay,
And dares pronounce with inauspicious breath,
In hymeneal verse, the name of Death!

Remote from cheerful intercourse of men,
Hath he indulged in melancholy mood,
And like the hermit in some sullen den,
Fed his distempered mind in solitude?
Or have fanatic dreams distraught his sense,
That thus he should presume with bold irreverence?

O Royal Lady, ill they judge the heart
That reverently approaches thee to-day,
And anxious to perform its fitting part,
Prefers the tribute of this duteous lay!
Not with displeasure should his song be read
Who prays for Heaven's best blessings on thy head.

He prays that many a year may pass away
Ere the State call thee from a life of love;
Vexed by no public cares, that day by day
Thy heart the dear domestic joys may prove,

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And gracious Heaven thy chosen nuptials bless
With all a Wife's and all a Mother's happiness.

He prays, that for thine own and England's sake,
The virtues and the household charities
Their favoured seat beside thy hearth may take;
That when the nation thither turn their eyes,
There the conspicuous model they may find
Of all which makes the bliss of human-kind.

He prays, that when the sceptre to thy hand
In due succession shall descend at length,
Prosperity and Peace may bless the land,
Truth be thy counsellor, and Heaven thy strength;
That every tongue thy praises may proclaim,
And every heart in secret bless thy name.

He prays, that thou mayest strenuously maintain
The wise laws handed down from sire to son;
He prays, that under thy auspicious reign
All may be added which is left undone,
To make the realm, its polity complete,
In all things happy as in all things great.

That through the will of thy enlightened mind,
Brute man may be to social life reclaimed:
That in compassion for forlorn mankind,
The saving Faith may widely be proclaimed
Thro' erring lands, beneath thy fostering care;
This is his ardent hope, his loyal prayer.

In every cottage may thy power be blest,
For blessings which should every-where abound;
Thy will beneficent from East to West
May bring forth good where'er the sun goes round;
And thus thro' future times should CHARLOTTE's fame
Surpass our great ELIZA's golden name.

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Of awful subjects have I dared to sing,
Yet surely are they such, as viewed aright,
Contentment to thy better mind may bring:
A strain which haply may thy heart invite
To ponder well, how to thy choice is given
A glorious name on earth, a high reward in heaven.

Light strains, tho' cheerful as the hues of spring,
Would wither like a wreath of vernal flowers;
The amaranthine garland which I bring
Shall keep its verdure thro' all after hours;
Yea, while the Poet's name is doomed to live,
So long this garland shall its fragrance give.

"Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown;"
Thus said the bard who spake of kingly cares;
But calmly may the sovereign then lie down
When grateful nations guard him with their prayers:
How sweet a sleep awaits the royal head,
When these keep watch and ward around the bed!

It was not, however, only in the metropolis, but in many other parts of England, that the nuptial day of the Princess Charlotte was celebrated by every demonstration of joy. Wherever her influence had been felt, there the smile of congratulation was apparent; and the blessings of the poor and the unfortunate, whom she had assisted, were in secret pronounced upon her. At Weymouth, in particular, the nuptial day was a merry scene of gladness and rejoicing. The ships in the harbour were decorated with the colours of every nation, over which fluttered in pride the royal standard of the country. Every individual seemed anxious to outvie the other in his congratulations; and, in perfect consistency with the character

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of the amiable Princess, whose happiness they were called upon to celebrate, the poor were fed, and the necessitous had the means distributed to them of participating in the hilarity of the day.

The following impromptu was written at Weymouth on the occasion:—

Let every Briton raise his voice,
Let every British heart rejoice,
On this auspicious day;
For soon shall England's Hope entwine
The Brunswick with the Saxon line,
In Hymen's hallow'd ray.

Illustrious pair! may Mercy sway
The sceptre of these realms to-day,
O may she brightly shine;
May Gratitude be taught to raise,
To Brunswick's House the hymn of praise,
And hail that mercy thine.

May each poor pris'ner in his cell,
With rapture of thy marriage tell,
May each to-day be free;
Joy will the grateful mandate take,
And Heaven will bless for Mercy's sake,
And hallow the decree.

Through life's short round we'll merry raise
To England's Hope, the hymn of praise,
And hail thy wedding-day;
O then, let Mercy brightly shine,
Let her this day with Joy entwine,
To shed a heavenly ray.

At Salisbury a ball, the most splendid ever witnessed in that city, was given at the council-

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chamber, on the night of the royal nuptials, by the mayor, the Rev. Christopher Rigby Collins. Numerous invitations had been given to families of fashion and respectability in the neighbourhood, and a brilliant assemblage of upwards of 230 persons graced the room. The dresses of the ladies being almost invariably white, added not a little to the gaiety of the festive scene. The front of the council-chamber was brilliantly and most tastefully illuminated with variegated lamps. The floor of the ball-room was beautifully ornamented by Mr. Farr, of Salisbury, with the King's arms in the centre row, under which, in the centre of the room, appeared a rising sun, with Saxe-Coburg in the middle; in two compartments on each side appeared the Prince of Wales's plume and coronet; at the upper end of the room the arms of the city and supporters; at the lower end the mayor's arms, between two laurel branches. A sum of money was, on the day of the marriage, distributed amongst the poor.

At Bognor the nuptial day was spent like a jubilee. The children of the school, which her Royal Highness had established, were, on this happy occasion, all dressed in white, and a plentiful dinner was provided for them from the funds of the jubilee establishment. The rough, old, weather-beaten mariners, who had been the objects of her Royal Highness's bounty during her residence at that place, made the rocks echo during the whole of the day with the report of their swivels, and, in the evening, "the hearty laugh and merry joke went round;" thrice, and thrice again

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the health and happiness of the royal pair were drunk, until, one by one, the veterans staggered home, muttering as they went—"God bless the Princess Charlotte!"

These demonstrations of joy at those particular places, which had been immediately honored by her presence, must have been highly gratifying to the feelings of the Princess Charlotte, and must have exhibited to her in a pleasing light, the high opinion which the people entertained of her. They were the pure and spontaneous effusions of the heart, arising from an admiration of her virtues, and from an indelible remembrance of the amiable tendency of her disposition, which were practically displayed in the support of indigent merit, in the solace of the unfortunate, and the relief of the necessitous.

The inhabitants of Salisbury, still preserved in their memory, the noble and generous manner in which her Royal Highness stepped forward to the relief of the suffering mechanics of the city, at a time when a stagnation of trade had driven many a laborious artizan to exchange the shuttle for a musket, and obliged many a despairing parent to seek for support within the walls of a poor-house. Then, with princely benevolence, did this amiable being, in the hour of affliction and of misery, stretch forth the hand of relief. The tear of the parent, bending over his hungering children, ceased to flow, the agony of the breaking heart was stilled, and the prayers of gratitude ascended to Heaven, invoking every blessing on the giver.

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Then what our immortal bard had said of Queen Elizabeth, might with justice be applied to the Princess Charlotte :—

She shall be lov'd and fear'd ; her own shall bless her;
Her foes shake like a field of beaten corn,
And hang their heads with sorrow : good grows with her ;
In her days ev'ry man shall eat in safety,
Under his own vine, what he plants ; and sing
The merry songs of peace to all his neighbours.

Even the theatrical genius of the nation was set in motion to commemorate this auspicious marriage. At Covent-Garden Theatre a musical interlude was produced, entitled the " Royal Nuptials; or, the Masque of Hymen." A piece, produced on the spur of the occasion, is not fairly liable to the strictness of criticism; and, if a proper outline be drawn, the characters duly exhibited, and the colouring of the picture justly preserved, sufficient is performed on such an occasion, to gratify a reasonable curiosity, and to satisfy a judgment not too fastidious. Various emblematical allusions to the high Saxon origin of the prince were exhibited, and in the progress of the masque, an abundance of magnificent scenery, and appropriate decoration was displayed. The whole piece evinced great spirit, variety, and grace.

The city of London, with its usual promptitude on these occasions, took the lead in congratulating the Royal Family on the royal nuptials.

On the 3d of May, a court of common council was summoned to consider of the propriety of addressing

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the Queen, and his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, on the marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte with his Serene Highness the Prince of Saxe-Coburg, as well as of addressing her Royal Highness and his Serene Highness on the same happy event.

The purpose for which the court was assembled having been stated, Mr. Dixon wished to be informed, whether the Lord Mayor had any official information of the marriage having taken place; as, considering it as a matter of form, it was scarcely proper to vote an address without such information.

The Lord Mayor replied, that he had expressed to Lord Sidmouth his wish to have an officer at court on the occasion. An officer had attended, was admitted to the presence, and had remained during the whole of the ceremony; and he had received a formal notice of the marriage having taken place, in consequence of which he had summonses sent out, and he hoped members would all attend on the occasion.

Mr. Alderman Birch said he should do himself the honor of moving a few resolutions upon the subject of the general joy—the happy marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales. Considering her illustrious birth, and that she was presumptive heiress to the throne, he hoped the citizens of London would not allow themselves to be inattentive to an event with which her Royal Highness's future happiness was so closely and so materially connected. He hoped that attachment to her and to her family would not fail to excite in their breasts those feelings, the expression of which would

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be as grateful to her as to themselves. They ought, indeed, highly to estimate the happiness of her Royal Highness, so well suited as she was for her high situation, and so well qualified for every domestic enjoyment. The address to her Royal Highness from a very large portion of the population of these kingdoms, would be thought particularly appropriate at the present moment. This fortunate alliance would continue the protestant succession to the throne, which was so providentially established at the glorious revolution of 1688, and confirmed and secured by the Act of Settlement. To multiply words on so great an occasion, would be unnecessary and improper, as it would be throwing a doubt upon the unanimity which should be expressed, and which he had confidently trusted would not be destroyed.

The worthy Alderman concluded by moving addresses of congratulation to the Prince Regent, the Queen, and the Princess Charlotte, and Prince Coburg; and the Sheriffs, attended by the remembrancer, were directed to wait upon those royal personages, to know when the court should attend them with the same.

Accordingly the Sheriffs attended, and the following Monday was the day appointed to receive the addresses.

The first official step after the marriage was, to establish the degree of precedency of his Serene Highness Prince Leopold; and, in the Gazette of May 4, the day subsequent to the marriage, appeared the following official paper:—

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"His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been pleased in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, to declare and ordain, that his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thuringuen, Prince of Coburg of Saalfeld, consort of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte Augusta of Wales, shall take, hold, and enjoy, during the term of his natural life, in all assemblies or meetings whatsoever, the precedence and rank following, that is to say, before the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, and all other great officers, and before the dukes (other than and except the Dukes of the Blood Royal), and all other peers of the realm."

The same Gazette announced the appointment of Prince Leopold to be a general in the army.

On the 4th of May, Lord Castlereagh gave notice in the House of Commons, that he would on the 6th, move for an address of congratulation to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, on the marriage of the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold.

Whilst these public proceedings were going on, the newly-married pair had the advantage of a very retired situation in which to pass their honeymoon at Oatlands. The house is extremely secluded in the park from all intruders, so much so that it is difficult to find the way to it, unless by application at either of the lodges at Walton or Weybridge, although a stage-coach going to Weybridge is allowed to pass through for the purpose of setting down passengers going to the house, or of leaving parcels there. On

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Friday, the day subsequent to the marriage, the royal pair amused themselves by walking in the delightful grounds and on the terrace, from which nine counties are to be viewed; and they afterwards resorted to the celebrated and largest grotto, bath, &c. in England, and, perhaps, in Europe; the construction of which occupied a man and his son, with assistants, a great number of years, and the expense of which exceeded the purchase of the estate. On the following day, the royal pair were unexpectedly gratified by the arrival of their royal father, the Prince Regent. They had at the time just entered their travelling-carriage, for the purpose of taking a survey of Claremont; but, on the approach of the Prince Regent in the park, they returned to the house, and her Royal Highness received her beloved father with joy and affection. The Prince Regent remained with them about an hour and a half, and then returned to London.

Amongst those who are in the habit of perusing the daily journals, the circumstance must be still alive in their memory, of the base and insidious manner in which the sneers and inuendoes of the vulgar and the malicious were directed against the Princess Charlotte, in consequence of her early appearance in public after her marriage.—On the day subsequent to her marriage, she was perambulating the grounds of Oatlands! On the day subsequent to that, her Royal Highness (as a snarling disappointed writer in one of the periodical papers described it) did, with an unblushing front, drive from Oatlands to Claremont!! And, to fulfil the crime of a total want of attention

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to the *rules* of female delicacy, she shewed herself at church on the Sunday following!!!—O whip me such creatures of a groveling nature, who skip about with the St. Vitus's dance of abhorrence, and tremble with the palsy of affright, when, according to their notions of virtue, they conceive they have discovered a wilful departure from its dictates. There is a standard of right and wrong implanted in every mind, which needs not the surreptitious aid of another to determine its degrees; but in proportion to the degeneracy and the turpitude of the mind of the individual who presumes to erect himself into a judge of the actions of another, will be the degree of criminality which he attaches to those actions. Such a being cannot see perfection in the works of creation, because there are spots on the sun, or because an earthquake lays desolate the cities of the world; to his jaundiced mind perfection becomes imperfection, and it riots and satiates itself on its imaginary defects. The notions of the Princess Charlotte were regulated by a mind pure as the crystalline gem just taken from its native mine, and, yielding to its bias, she sought for no other approbation than that of Heaven. To those persons, (and some are still alive,) who found in the actions of the Princess a dereliction from female delicacy, let me recommend the adoption of the Roman maxim of *sacros sacra decent;* or, before they again pretend by their hireling pens to blot the character of a female, let her rank in life be whatever it may—the princess or the peasant,—to let their actions be guided by the motto of the former, *Honi soit qui mal y pense.*

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Early on Sunday the 5th, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold went out in their travelling carriage, drawn by their beautiful greys. The royal pair attended divine service at Weybridge church, whither an immense concourse of people flocked from various quarters. They sat in the Duchess of York's pew. After divine service was concluded, they were received with acclamations by the people on the outside of the church. They walked to and from the church through the church-yard, which is a considerable distance from the road in Weybridge, where they had left their carriage; his Serene Highness without his hat, and her Royal Highness curtseying and nodding in return for the marked attention and respect which they experienced from the inhabitants of Weybridge and its neighbourhood. The royal pair drove off amidst the loudest huzzas to Chertsey, returned by Shepperton, and crossed Walton-Bridge to Oatlands, to dinner.

Soon after their arrival, they received a communication from the Queen in London.

The plain and simple manner in which the Princess Charlotte usually dressed, often gave rise to many ludicrous mistakes, which occasioned a considerable degree of mirth to her Royal Highness, and which induced her to say, that no one could accuse her of not being partial to a masquerade, for she was generally in that dress in which nobody knew her.

One morning, during her residence at Oatlands, she had risen rather earlier than usual, and the weather being fine, she immediately repaired to the garden. Her Royal Highness always took particular delight in the

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cultivation of flowers, and, whenever she visited the garden, she always took a little pruning-knife with her, wherewith to cut off the decayed branches of the trees or plants. She was on this morning busily employed in this occupation, and stooping very low, when one of the under-gardeners seeing a female dressed as he afterwards said, very unlike a princess, cutting at one of the plants, he exclaimed, "Hollo! what are you slashing at there?" The Princess started, not being aware of any one being near to her; but collecting herself immediately, she rose, and with great meekness answered, "I am only cutting some dead branches off." A colour rose into the gardener's face, deeper than that of any rose in his garden, on discovering that it was the Princess whom he had accosted so uncourteously; and he took off his hat, and bowed, and began to stammer an apology, but his confusion prevented him from uttering it. On which, the Princess Charlotte, seeing his embarrassment, said, "Here, my good man, cut off this branch, it is too large for me to attempt it."

At another time, the Princess was walking in the Park, when she was accosted by a poor woman, who implored a little money to buy some bread for her family; and added, that she was going to the palace to get her case laid before her Royal Highness, who, she had been told, was always ready to assist the poor. "I am afraid that you will not succeed there," said her Royal Highness. "I know better," said the woman; "it is her great folk about her, that prevent the complaints of the poor reaching her, but I know a good lady

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there, who will do me some service with the Princess Charlotte." "And who is that lady?" asked her Royal Highness. "Why, ma'am, it be Miss Coates." "Then go to the house in about half an hour," said her Royal Highness, "and ask for Miss Coates, and see what benefit you will derive from it." The woman kept her appointment, and a pound note was given to her as being presented to her by the Princess Charlotte, she being the lady with whom she had conversed in the Park.

An address of congratulation on the royal nuptials was moved by the Earl of Liverpool, in the House of Lords, on the 8th of May. His lordship briefly stated, that he should not take up much of their lordships' time in what he had to say. There was, he knew, a common and uniform feeling on the subject. He meant the occasion of addressing the Royal Family on the recent auspicious nuptials, which presented every prospect of solid happiness to the country as well as to the illustrious personages immediately concerned. His lordship then moved,

That an address of congratulation on the marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales with his Serene Highness the Prince of Saxe-Coburg, be presented severally to the Prince Regent, her Majesty, and to the Princess Charlotte, and the Prince Coburg.

The motions, distinctly put, were agreed to, unanimously.

The following is an extract from the Lords' Journals:—

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Die Jovis, 9° Maii, 1816.

The Lord Steward reported, that the lords with white staves had, according to order, waited on his Royal Highness the Prince Regent with their lordships' address of Tuesday last; and that his Royal Highness was pleased to return the following most gracious answer:—

"My Lords,

"I receive with great satisfaction this loyal and dutiful address, and I return my thanks to the House of Lords for their congratulations on the present happy occasion."

On the same day, Lord George Beresford informed the House of Commons, that his Royal Highness the Prince Regent had received the address of the House on the marriage of the Princess Charlotte, and thanked the House for its zealous congratulations.

Although, for obvious reasons, the addresses of the Houses of Lords and Commons could not at this time be presented to the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, yet a private court was held by her Majesty on the 9th, for the purpose of receiving the address of the House of Commons, on the marriage of her royal grand-daughter. On this occasion her Majesty was attended, besides the Princesses, by the Dukes of York, Clarence, and Sussex. The deputation from the House of Commons, consisting of Lords Lascelles, Binning, and Beresford, were introduced into the presence of her Majesty by Earl Morton, when her Majesty received the address, and returned a most gracious answer.

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Her Majesty also appointed the following Monday to receive the address of the corporation of London at Buckingham-House.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte and his Serene Highness the Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld attended divine service, for the second time, at Weybridge church, which attracted a very crowded congregation. The church-yard, through which they had to walk to the church, was crowded with spectators, who received the royal pair with marked attention and rejoicings, which the Prince and Princess very condescendingly acknowledged. At the conclusion of the afternoon service they left that place for London, in their new travelling carriage, drawn by four beautiful greys, with three outriders in their new liveries. They were preceded by another royal carriage, in which were their attendants. They arrived at ten minutes before six o'clock at Camelford-House. The Prince and Princess followed about five minutes after. A crowd surrounded the gate in Oxford-street, and received them with loud huzzas. Hereford-street, which is open to Camelford-House, was also crowded at the iron railing which separates the court-yard from Hereford-street, to see the Prince and Princess get out of their carriage. They were received in the hall by Baron Hardenbroke, Sir Robert Gardiner, the pages in waiting, and other attendants *.

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* The following was the marriage establishment of their Royal and Serene Highnesses the Princess Charlotte Augusta, and Field-Marshal the Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld :—

Ladies

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Soon after their arrival dinner was served up.

The return of their Highnesses to London being known to the higher circles, Hyde-Park was crowded

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Ladies of the Bed-chamber, Lady Emily Murray, Lady John Thynne*.

Bed-chamber women, Mrs. Campbell and Miss C. Coates.

Privy Purse, Mrs. Campbell.

Aid-de-camps and Equerries to Prince Leopold, Baron de Hardenbroke, and Sir Robert Gardiner.

Equerries to Princess Charlotte Augusta, Colonel Addenbroke, and Honorable —— Percy.

Treasurer, H. N. Willis, Esq.

Chaplains, Rev. Dr. Short, Rev. N. N. Short, Rev. F. Ricketts, Rev. Dr. Moorhead.

Physicians in Ordinary, C. Stockman, M.D., M. Baillie, M.D., and N. N. Rodham, M.D.

Physician Extraordinary, N. N. Morrison, M.D.

Physician Accoucheur, Sir Richard Crofts, Bart. M.D.

Surgeon in Ordinary, Robert Keate, Esq.

Surgeon Extraordinary, Thomas Harding, Esq.

Surgeon and Apothecary, W. H. Neville, Esq.

Apothecaries, Mr. R. Walker, and Mr. E. Brande.

Household Secretary, Mr. Ammerschaber.

Pages, Messrs. James Sims, Thomas Poole, Henry Florshutz, and Pan Mechin.

Valet-de-chambre, M. H. Florshutz.—*Dresser*, Mrs. L. Prior.

House

* The following *jeu d'esprit* was written in consequence of the numerous applications from respectable ladies to wait upon the Princess Charlotte :—

Five hundred and seventy-four maidens fair,
To wait on the Princess, their wishes declare;
Say, what other court throughout Europe can boast,
Of virgins so noble, and num'rous a host;
If all in a body, they should wait upon her,
No doubt they'll be styled the *Fair Legion of Honour*.

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in the afternoon with carriages, horsemen, and pedestrians, notwithstanding the severe coldness of the wind, and the frequent showers. The interior of Camelford-House was crowded with all ranks and parties, leaving their respectful congratulations. The Prince and Princess Castelcicala were amongst the distinguished personages, who paid their respects on this occasion jointly to the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold.

On Monday, the 13th of May, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex waited upon the Princess Charlotte and Prince of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld, at Camelford-House, to know the time when they would be pleased to receive the address voted by the corporation of London upon their marriage; when her Royal Highness and his Serene Highness were pleased to appoint that day, after they had waited upon her Majesty the Queen at her palace.

At two o'clock a guard of honor marched into the court-yard of Carlton-House, preceded by the band in their state uniforms. The royal household were in attendance, and dressed the same as at the levee. A party of life-guards were stationed in Pall-Mall, with their band in full uniform.

House Steward, W. Philipps, Esq. *Housekeeper*, Mrs. Philipps.
Clerk of the Wine Cellar, Mr. Lyons.
Cooks, Mr. F. Grillon, E. Morel, and J. Schellhorn.
Woman Cook, Elizabeth Hands. *Confectioner*, Mr. C. Hoeck.
Coffee Room, Hannah Parsons. *Gardener*, T. Fairbairn.
Silk Mercer, William King.
Linen Maker by special appointment, Mary Hillhouse.

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A little before three, the corporation arrived in state; the Lord Mayor wore a large cockade on his left breast, and his collar on each shoulder ornamented with white ribbons. The aldermen, the gentlemen of the court of common council, the city officers, &c., wore the same favors. The Lord Chamberlain shortly after introduced them into the presence of the Prince Regent; who, being seated upon his throne, surrounded by the officers of state, received the address, which was read by the Recorder, and to which his Royal Highness returned the following answer:—

"I thank you for this loyal and dutiful address. It is with the most cordial satisfaction that I receive your congratulations on an event no less grateful to my personal feelings, than important to the best interests of the British empire."

They were all received very graciously, and had the honor of kissing the hand of his Royal Highness.

The city cavalcade then proceeded to the Queen's Palace. They were received with military honors by a guard of honor, which had previously marched into the court-yard for the first time, except on the days her Majesty had held drawing-rooms at that palace. This being the first address from the Corporation which the Queen had received at her palace, it was deemed essential, after due deliberation, that she should receive it on a throne, and there being no throne there, a new one was built upon the occasion. It was placed against the centre window of the grand saloon. In the front was her Majesty's state-chair, on which she took her seat, accompanied by

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the Princesses Elizabeth and Mary, attended by the officers of her household, and ladies of the bed-chamber.

The Corporation was introduced into the presence of her Majesty and the Earl of Morton, when the Recorder read the address, to which her Majesty returned the following answer:—

"I receive your congratulations with heartfelt satisfaction, and I am highly gratified by those sentiments of duty to the King, and of attachment to the Royal Family, which you have expressed on the present occasion."

They were all very graciously received, and had the honor of kissing her Majesty's hand.

The Corporation then proceeded to Camelford-House, round which an immense concourse of people were assembled. Sir Nathaniel Conant, the magistrate attended, with a number of police officers. The procession entered the court-yard by Hereford-street. The Princess Charlotte appeared at one of the windows, and being seen by the populace, they greeted her with loud huzzas. The Princess and Prince's servants appeared in their state liveries for the first time.

The procession arrived at Camelford-House about a quarter past five o'clock; they were a considerable time alighting, when the hall became extremely crowded. The Lord Mayor addressed the gentlemen, and informed them he understood the room in which the Princess was to receive them, was not large enough to receive so numerous an assemblage; pro-

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bably it would only hold thirty at a time, and requested they would allow some to leave the room before others entered; but he assured them the Princess would see every gentleman. This request was attended to.

Her Royal Highness received them in the drawing-room, and took her station at the centre of the room from the entrance; her dress was of black silk, agreeably to the directions of the court-mourning for the Empress of Austria. On her head she wore a beautiful and elegant plume of white feathers. Mr. Percy, her equerry, was on her right. Lady Emily Murray, Lady John Thynne, Mrs. Campbell, and Miss Coates, also stood on her right. The Lord Mayor and aldermen entered, and the Recorder read the following address:—

"To her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte Augusta of Wales and of Saxe-Coburg of Saalfeld.

"MADAM,

"We, his Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, aldermen, and commons of the city of London, in common council assembled, request permission to offer our warmest congratulations upon the recent and auspicious marriage of your Royal Highness with his Serene Highness the Prince of Saxe-Coburg.

"This very important union with an amiable and accomplished prince, of a family long distinguished for its attachment to the Protestant cause, we regard as an additional proof of the anxious care of your Royal Father for the interests and welfare of his

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Majesty's subjects, and of his paternal affection for your Royal Highness.

"The splendid dignity of your royal birth, as presumptive heiress to the British sceptre, creates peculiar sentiments of affection and reverence in the hearts of all his Majesty's subjects, accompanied by the full assurance and proud exultation, that the great acquirements and endearing qualities and graces of your royal mind are so happily calculated to adorn the exalted station of your Royal Highness; and their prospects are brightened by the affectionate regard to the interests of these happy realms, which your Royal Highness, the pride and hope of Britain, has manifested by this illustrious alliance.

"The citizens of London are anxious to express the affectionate solicitude they feel, that the joyful event may be accompanied by the peculiar favor of Heaven, and that the transcendent virtues which inhabit your royal bosom, may descend to grace a line of princes, who may be the pride of their royal parents, and a lasting glory to the country."

To which compliments of congratulation, her Royal Highness was pleased to return the following answer:

"My Lord Mayor, and Gentlemen,

"I receive your congratulations with the utmost satisfaction, and I desire you to be assured, that it will be my constant wish and endeavour to preserve the esteem of the city of London."

They, with the rest of the gentlemen of the corporation, then approached her Royal Highness, and had the honor to kiss her hand.

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The same ceremony was then observed to his Serene Highness Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, who appeared in regimentals, with his order of merit, attended by Sir Robert Gardiner, and Baron Hardenbroke, who introduced them, and they were conducted by Robert Chester, Esq., the master of the ceremonies.

Sir John Sylvester then read the following congratulatory address:—

"To his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thuringuen, Prince of Coburg of Saalfeld, &c.

"The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in common council assembled, have great joy in paying their compliments of congratulation to your Serene Highness on your safe arrival in this kingdom, and on your auspicious nuptials with the virtuous and amiable Princess Charlotte Augusta of Wales, presumptive heiress to the throne of these realms.

"The dignity of your princely house, your high military fame, the solid endowments of your mind, the graceful qualities of your heart, demand our veneration and esteem, and afford the most cheerful prospect, that an alliance thus formed, will be productive of all the happiness that can attend the married state.

"With the illustrious Princess, the fair promise of our isle, your Serene Highness has received all the graces and virtues which afford a pre-eminent example to the daughters of Britain, the acquirements of

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her royal mind; fitted to her high station, are equalled by the engaging female softness of her character, to bless and display domestic life.

" May your Serene Highness long live to partake of the blessing; and may your royal bride crown your wishes with a race of princes, inheriting your respective graces, and transmitting your names with glory to the remotest ages."

To which compliments of congratulation, his Serene Highness was pleased to return the following answer :—

" My Lord Mayor, and Gentlemen,

" I return you my warmest thanks for your congratulations, and for the sentiments so favorable and gratifying to myself, with which they are accompanied."

The Prince and Princess afterwards went out to take a short ride before dinner in their curricle; on which occasion, the crowd which had been collected in the vicinity of Camelford-House, testified their respect and joy by taking off their hats, and giving the royal pair three loud huzzas. The Prince in return took off his hat, and bowed. The Princess Charlotte bowed also, and appeared particularly pleased with the sincere manifestations of joy expressed by the people.

At three o'clock, the deputation from the House of Lords arrived at Camelford-House, to present their addresses. They were conducted into the presence of the Prince and Princess in the drawing-room, by Mr. Chester, the master of the ceremonies, where the royal pair were attended by Sir Robert Gardiner,

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Baron Hardenbroke, Mr. Percy, and her Royal Highness's ladies in waiting.

The Earl of Harrowby, as lord president, and one of the deputation, stated, that it had been—

"Ordered, *nemine dissentiente*, by the lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, that a message be sent from that House to congratulate her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte Augusta, and his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederic, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thuringuen, Prince of Coburg of Saalfeld, on the late solemnization of their marriage."

To which the following answer was given:—

"We are much gratified by the proof of attention and regard which we have received upon this occasion from the House of Lords, and we return them many thanks for their congratulations."

A little before five, the deputation from the House of Commons arrived, consisting of the Marquis of Worcester, the Earl Gower, Lord Elmley, Lord Viscount Clive, Mr. Hill, Mr. Cecil Jenkinson, Mr. Law, and Sir Thomas Acland.

They were introduced in a form similar to the deputation of the House of Lords; when the Marquis of Worcester read the resolution of the House of Commons, stating that it had been agreed to, *nemine contradicente*,

"That a congratulatory message be sent to her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte Augusta, and his Serene Highness Leopold George Frederic, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Meissen, Landgrave of Thurin-

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guen, Prince of Coburg of Saalfeld, on the happy occasion of their nuptials.

The Princess Charlotte answered :—

" We receive with great satisfaction this proof of the attention and regard of the House of Commons, and return them many thanks for their congratulations."

The answer of Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg to the House of Commons, was as follows :—

" Gentlemen,

" I rejoice at the share the House of Commons take in my happiness, and am sensible of their attention in making these congratulations. I am very much obliged to them for their good wishes, and thank them for the assurance of their friendship, which I shall always try to deserve."

The first visit of the Queen to Camelford-House was on the 15th, and Her Majesty remained with the Prince and Princess about an hour. Soon after Her Majesty's departure, the Prince Regent arrived on a visit to his royal daughter and son : his Royal Highness's visit did not exceed above half an hour. In a short time after, the Prince and Princess left Camelford-House in their curricle, and visited the Princess Sophia of Gloucester, at her house in Curzon-street, Mayfair, when the Duke of Gloucester was present to receive their royal relatives. Although it is a very retired neighbourhood, the visit soon attracted a great crowd in the streets ; but the sole intent of the populace appeared to be, to testify their joy at the sight of the illustrious personages ; for, as

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as they mounted their curricle, the air rung with the shouts of the people; and the Prince was obliged to walk his horses, fearful that some accident might happen, were he to drive at his usual rate.

It having been announced, by command of Her Majesty the Queen, that she would hold a drawing-room on the 16th at her palace, for the purpose of receiving publicly at her court the congratulations of the English nobility and gentry, as well as of the foreigners of distinction, upon the happy event of the marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte with his Serene Highness Prince Leopold; a more than ordinary interest was excited upon the occasion among all ranks of people. The anniversary of the King's birth-day was generally considered an annual royal festival, but the court on this day exceeded any of the preceding ones within the recollection of the oldest courtier; even the court after the King's recovery did not equal it; there were supposed to be present above 3,000 persons. Although the Queen has removed her drawing-rooms from St. James's Palace to her own palace, the public are admitted into the Great Hall by tickets presented to respectable persons, as was customary at St. James's Palace. They began to arrive there after ten o'clock, very elegantly dressed. A crowd was collected round the palace by eleven o'clock, and soon after twelve it was so great, the palace was scarcely accessible, till a numerous assemblage of police-officers arrived under the direction of Sir N. Conant, as well as the marshalmen, porters, &c.

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Although the drawing-room was not to commence till two o'clock, the company began to arrive a little after twelve, and continued to arrive till past four at all the different entrances. Some of the distinguished characters who came to court were kept in their carriages in the regular ranks; some of them frequently reached to Oxford-street, and some who resided in St. James's-square, had to go as far as Oxford-street before they could get into the rank; but, notwithstanding the immense collection of carriages, no accident of any importance occurred. The entrance of the company at one time was so extremely great, that there was a complete stoppage under the covered colonnade for an hour.

The grand objects of attraction, the royal pair, arrived at a quarter before two o'clock in state, their carriage being preceded by three others, in which were Lady Emily Murray, Lady John Thynne, Mrs. Campbell, Miss Coates, Sir Robert Gardiner, Colonel Addenbroke, and the Hon. Mr. Percy, escorted by a party of the Life-Guards, and followed with the greetings of the public.

A few minutes after two o'clock, Her Majesty entered the drawing-room with her numerous and distinguished family. The Queen took her usual station, her chamberlain, vice-chamberlain, and other attendants standing on her left, and the Royal Family to her right. Her Majesty then proceeded to receive the congratulations of the splendid, brilliant, and highly distinguished throng. They passed on from the Queen to the Princess Charlotte, Prince Leopold, &c.;

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they all appeared to vie with each other in their hearty compliments and good wishes. Her Majesty also received an address of congratulation from the borough and town of Guildford, by Lord Grantley, the High Steward, and the Recorder, accompanied by General Norton. Her Majesty also received several other addresses from different places.

The exterior of the palace as well as the interior, had the most splendid and fascinating appearance. The company, who had paid their congratulatory respects to the Queen at the commencement of the drawing-room, were not able to leave the palace, as their carriages could not draw up till all the company had been set down. The windows of the palace were filled with the *elegantes*, others promenaded the palace court-yard and the grass-plot; and such an assemblage gave it the exact appearance of a grand fête, or a gala of rejoicing. Indeed it only required a few harlequins and other such ridiculous non-descript characters, with a few hurdygurdies and grinding organs, to render it in all respects a splendid masquerade. The clergy in their canonicals—the soldier and the sailor in their uniform—the judges in their robes—the lawyers in their full-bottom wigs—the noblemen in their embroidered suits—and the gentlemen in their plain attire,

"——————— all were in confusion met,
And peers and grooms, and lacqueys richly dight,
And dames with turbans topp'd with nodding plumes,
And essenc'd beaus with powder'd empty heads,
Join'd in the uproar wild."

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The mildness of the weather being extremely favorable to the occasion, the effect of the promenade was considerably heightened by the performance of some charming pieces by the band.

The top of the Queen's guard-house was covered with respectable persons; several trees were filled, and the parks were crowded with people and carriages to an extraordinary degree.

The Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold left, with their suites in the same state as they came, the guard of honor saluting with military honors, and the band playing "*God save the King.*" The bishops, judges, and other distinguished characters, formed a line for them to pass through in the court-yard, bowing and curtseying to the royal pair as they passed, who returned the compliments with the greatest affability and condescension. On entering the park, they were received with loud huzzas by the populace. The company had not left the palace till nearly seven o'clock.

The dress of the Princess Charlotte, on this occasion, was unusually superb. It consisted of a petticoat of rich silver tissue, and draperies of net, most magnificently embroidered in silver lama, with deep borders, beaded with a costly silver rolio; the draperies elegantly supported with a most brilliant cord of real silver bullion, and very superb silver tassels below the draperies; the dress finished with a most beautiful and elegant garniture in silver lama and tulle, most tastefully designed; mantua of rich silver tissue, with superb border of lama, and the sleeves profusely

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trimmed with the most beautiful Brussels point-lace; rich silver band, fastened in front with diamonds; head-dress, a most superb wreath of the richest and most brilliant diamonds, forming roses and leaves, with a most elegant ostrich plumage. The whole dress surpassed all conception in the grandeur, magnificence, and brilliancy of its effects.

With the warmest congratulations to the industrious and skilful manufacturers of this country, it must be noticed, that all the magnificent articles of the Princess Charlotte's wardrobe, on the occasion of her marriage, were of British manufacture, and of the richest kind, with the exception of the Brussels, Mechlin, and Valenciennes laces.

They must feel no little pride at this encouragement given to their exertions, and may such a reward for their strenuous endeavours to attain perfection, add a double vigour to their future undertakings.

On the following day, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold took an airing, and a very serious accident had nearly occurred to them, as their curricle was turning into the Park by Cumberland-gate, Oxford-road, owing to a single horse-chaise having been upset just at that time in Park-lane; by which means though the chaise was still on its wheels, the body was reversed, and knocking on the ground, as the animal rushed along with it, which rather impeded its course. The horse was going on at a most furious rate, and passed the curricle within half a foot, but fortunately, without coming in contact. Some serious mischief was apprehended, as several carriages and horsemen

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were waiting about the spot to gratify their curiosity; fortunately, no accident happened.

Saturday, the 18th, was the day appointed by the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold to receive the address of congratulation on their marriage from the borough and town of Guildford; and, accordingly, Lord Grantley the High Steward for the borough, and Mr. Serjeant Onslow one of the members for the town, waited upon their Royal Highnesses at Camelford-House, in their full court-dress. The following is a copy of the address:—

"We, your Royal and Serene Highnesses' most affectionate and devoted servants, the Mayor, High Steward, Recorder, and Magistrates, and approved men, together with the other inhabitants of the town and borough of Guildford, in the county of Surrey, beg leave to offer to your Royal and Serene Highnesses our warmest and most sincere congratulations on your auspicious union; and to assure you, that a union, so calculated to ensure the domestic felicity of your Royal and Serene Highnesses, is, in every view, a source of satisfactory reflection to the English nation.

"We rejoice in the opportunity afforded us of addressing a Prince for whom we entertain the highest and most profound regard and respect; to assure your Serene Highness, how fully we participate in every happiness you can experience, and particularly in your union with so illustrious a British Princess.

"May these nuptials, so pleasing to the nation, be productive of permanent felicity to your Royal

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and Serene Highnesses, and may you both live long in the esteem and affection of a free people."

The Prince and Princess returned the following answer :—

" Gentlemen,

" We return you our best thanks for your loyal address, and the expressions of attachment towards us contained in it, which are very gratifying to us."

After receiving the address, her Royal Highness received a visit from the Princess Sophia of Gloucester; and, having taken an airing to Kew and Richmond, returned to Camelford-House to dinner.

The royal pair having officially announced their intention of visiting the Opera on this evening, the whole of the fashionable world was on the tiptoe to witness their first appearance at a public place of amusement. The boxes and the pit were one continued blaze of beauty and of fashion, and the price of the boxes, opposite to that which their Royal Highnesses were to occupy, rose to the unprecedented height of ten guineas for the evening. The flourishing bravuras, the graceful shrugs, and the wild distortions of the Italian exotics on this evening, appeared to lose their manifold attractions, for all eyes were directed to that quarter which was, in a short time, to be graced by the presence of two individuals—the most interesting, the most important to the nation. The first act of the opera was over, and yet their Royal and Serene Highnesses made not their appearance. The frowns of displeasure began to appear on the counte-

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nances of the audience, and many began to think that they had paid their ten guineas to experience the vexatious feelings of disappointment. The ghastly smiles of the dancers, their distortions, and their attitudes of grace, were completely thrown away upon the spectators; and the buz soon spread about the house, that their Royal and Serene Highnesses were not coming. The *divertisement* had, however, just closed, when they entered the Regent's box, and were received with the most enthusiastic acclamations, which continued for several minutes, during which the Prince and Princess bowed to the audience. "*God save the King*" was called for, and was sung by all the performers; if bawling and screaming can be called singing. The Opera-house is not the place to hear our national airs sung in their genuine purity; their beauties are disguised in fictitious ornaments, and their simplicity lost in an exuberant display of musical science. The Princess Charlotte, however, joined in the chorus, and appeared highly gratified with the most cordial welcome with which she was received. She frequently nodded to some distinguished personages whom she recognised in the opposite boxes; and her whole demeanor appeared to be that of a person in the circle of her intimates, rather than that of restraint and ceremony, the general concomitants of that situation in which her Royal Highness was placed. With the consciousness of every eye being upon her, she still maintained an easy and dignified carriage; and, when she rose to retire, the condescension with which

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she acknowledged the acclamations of the audience, gave an additional interest to the splendid spectacle.

Accompanied by the Duchess of York, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold attended divine service on the following day, at Whitehall Chapel, when a sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Hornbuckle, of St. John's College, Cambridge, from the 16th chapter of the Gospel of St. Luke, and the 8th verse. The Duchess of York sat in the commander-in-chief's pew, on account of her hearing better there. The Prince and Princess sat in the royal closet. The royal visitors, together with the appearance of the royal carriages soon attracted a crowded congregation, and an immense concourse round the chapel. Sir N. Conant having received the royal commands of its being the Princess Charlotte's intention of attending divine service there, he was in attendance, with several police officers, to keep order there.

On Monday, a little before four o'clock, his Serene Highness, accompanied by the Princess Charlotte, went in their close landau to York-House, where they were joined by the Duchess of York. They then visited the British gallery in Pall Mall, previously to the exhibition opening to public view. The Duchess of York was attended by Lady Cullen Smith and General Taylor. The royal party were received by the Marquis of Stafford, the Earl of Aberdeen, Earl Brownlow, Lord Dundas, the right honorable Charles Long, Sir George Beaumont, Sir Thomas Bernard, Sir Abraham Spencer, and the Rev. W. H. Carr, directors of the institution, who attended the

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royal visitors through the exhibition, and explained the different subjects. His Serene Highness appeared particularly gratified, and from his marked attention to the best pictures, proved his judgment in the art of painting. They continued about an hour viewing the pictures, and then returned to York-House, where they alighted from their carriage. The Prince and Princess returned immediately to Camelford-House, whither the Duchess of York soon followed to dine with them.

The intended visit of the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold to Drury-Lane Theatre, to see the performance of the new tragedy of Bertram, on Monday the 20th, attracted at an early hour a brilliant and overflowing audience; the crowd assembled in Russell-street was so very great as to render it altogether impassable. The Prince and Princess did not, however, arrive at the entrance to the theatre until ten minutes before nine o'clock. Every preparation was made by the managers for their reception; matting was laid from the steps of the carriage to the inside of the theatre, where Messrs. Dibdin and Rae were in attendance, dressed in court mourning. They were immediately conducted by the managers with wax lights to the Prince Regent's box, attended by Baron Hardenbroke and General Taylor. When the royal pair entered the box, the last act was in representation and Kean in his most trying scene. The appearance of the illustrious visitors interrupted the progress of the tragedy, and was greeted by acclamations as loud, reiterated, and enthusiastic, as were ever heard in a

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theatre. The whole of the company then came forward, decorated with white favors, in honor of the royal marriage, and gave "*God Save the King*," with all the national spirit and feeling which characterize our English singers. The additional stanzas were admirably sung by Mr. T. Cooke and Miss Nash. The Princess was observed to beat time with her fan on the front of the box, and was frequently in conversation with the Prince. At the conclusion of the national anthem, her Royal Highness bowed very respectfully, and appeared to feel deeply the respect and attention which were shewn her. Her Royal Highness was dressed in mourning, with a chaplet of white roses and lilies round her head. She leaned in the most condescending manner as forward as possible in the front of the box, which is very ill calculated for the audience to see any person in it. The Prince stood in the front on her left hand, dressed in mourning with the insignia of his orders.

On Thursday, the 23d, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent held a court at Carlton-House. A few minutes before two o'clock, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold arrived, and were received by the Duke of Clarence, attended by the Regent's household.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent held a chapter of the Order of the Bath, for the purpose of investing his Serene Highness the Prince of Coburg Saalfeld with the grand cross of the order.

After this ceremony, her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte was conducted into the great council

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chamber, or throne room, for the purpose of seeing the splendid state spectacle of a chapter of the Order of the Garter for the first time, attended by Colonel Addenbroke, Ladies John Thynne and Emily Murray. Her Royal Highness took her station on the right side of the state chair.

The honorable and reverend Dr. Henry Lewis Hobart, dean of Windsor, being introduced, took the required oath of office, and was invested with the insignia of registrar of the order. A new statute was thereupon promulgated by the Chancellor, dispensing with existing statutes, for the purpose of declaring Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld a knight of the order.

His Serene Highness was introduced by Lord Castlereagh and the Earl of Liverpool, and knelt before the Prince Regent; when his Royal Highness, with the assistance of the Duke of York, invested his Serene Highness with the garter and riband of St. George.

The Chancellor then, in an audible tone, pronounced the following admonition:—

"To the honor of God omnipotent, and in memorial of the blessed martyr St. George, tie about thy leg, for thy renown, this noble garter: wear it as the symbol of the most illustrious order, never to be forgotten, or laid aside, that thereby thou mayest be admonished to be courageous, and having undertaken a just war in which thou shalt be engaged, thou mayest stand firm, valiantly fight, and successfully conquer."

This was pronounced whilst his Serene Highness

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was standing, and after that he again knelt when the Regent was pleased to place the blue riband upon his left shoulder, his Serene Highness having the Order of the Bath on his right.

The Bishop of Salisbury, as Chancellor, then pronounced the following admonition :—

"Wear this riband about thy neck, adorned with the image of the blessed martyr, and soldier of Christ, St. George; by whose imitation provoked, thou mayest so overpass both propitious and adverse adventures, that having constantly vanquished thy enemies, both of body, and soul, thou mayst not only receive the praise of this transient combat, but be crowned with the palm of eternal victory."

His Serene Highness then kissed the Prince Regent's hand, and having passed round the table, and severally saluted the knights companions present, withdrew.

The Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold had their first dinner party on the 23d, at Camelford-House, which was honored with the presence of the Prince Regent. His Royal Highness was received at the door by Prince Leopold, who conducted him to the drawing-room, at the entrance to which he was received by the Princess. The party consisted of the particular associates of the Prince Regent's.

On Friday the 24th, at one o'clock, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, rode out, and called at four o'clock at York-House, to take leave of the Duchess of York, previously to her leaving London for Oatlands. The royal party was soon after joined

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by the Duke of York. At a quarter past five o'clock, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold left York-House for Camelford-House, where they dined.

In the evening, the Princess Charlotte and her illustrious consort honored Covent-Garden Theatre, with their presence, to see the excellent comedy of the *Jealous Wife*, and the romance of *Cymon*. They arrived before seven o'clock, and entered the theatre by Prince's-place, Hart-street, where they were received by Mr. Harris, jun., Mr. Fawcett, and Mr. Brandon, in full mourning dresses, who lighted them to the Regent's box. Her Royal Highness spoke to the managers in the most condescending and affable manner, hoped she was in time, and had not kept the audience waiting*. The manager presented them with copies of the play of the *Jealous Wife*, bound in red, and play-bills printed on superior paper. When the Princess and Prince appeared in front of the royal box, they were received with rapturous applause, which

* Our venerable Monarch, who in all business, and in every arrangement of the day, was as punctual as time, alway's deemed it essentially necessary to observe the same punctuality with the audience of the theatres, when he commanded an entertainment there; and in this he followed the example of his illustrious grandfather, George II., who once, when business had detained him a single quarter of an hour, which deferred the beginning of the play, as he approached the front of his box, took out his watch, and, as it were, presenting its dial to the house, made a condescending bow. I recollect one instance of the present King being detained by a special council, when a message came to the managers in less than half an hour after the usual time of beginning the play, that his Majesty was prevented from coming.

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was acknowledged with suitable sensibility by the illustrious visitors. On the drawing up of the curtain the whole of the company appeared, the ladies dressed in white, in compliment to the recent nuptials. "*God save the King*" was given in the usual impressive manner, and two new and appropriate stanzas were sung by Sinclair and Duruset, with the happiest effect. Their Highnesses were attended by Sir Robert Gardiner and Baron Hardenbroke.

On the 25th, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold received an address of congratulation on their marriage from the city of Bath. The Marquis of Camden, as Recorder of that city, Lord John Thynne, and Colonel Palmer, the members, were at the head of the deputation. The Princess and Prince returned the following answer:—

"Gentlemen,

"We have the greatest pleasure in receiving your congratulations, and the assurances of regard and attachment that accompany them."

The deputation from Bath having taken their leave, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor was admitted into the presence of his Serene Highness Prince Leopold, to acquaint him with the resolution agreed to by the court of common council, for presenting him with the freedom of the city of London, and to know his pleasure when and in what manner his Serene Highness would be pleased to receive the same. His Serene Highness was pleased to appoint Friday, the 12th day of July.

An address of congratulation from Windsor, on

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their marriage, was also, on the same day, presented to their Serene Highnesses.

In the evening the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold honored the Opera-House with their presence. They entered through the Prince's door, Market-lane, and were received by Mr. Read and Mr. Bromley, who lighted them into the Regent's box, which they entered at half past nine, in the middle of the second act of the opera. The performance immediately ceased, and the principal vocal performers came forward, and sang "*God save the King*," the verse parts by Madame Fodor and Madame Marconi. The royal pair went in a private manner without attendants.

Except in case of actual indisposition, never did the Princess Charlotte omit repairing to church on the sabbath. In the midst of the splendid gaieties of high life or in the captivating pursuits of the fashionable world, she never lost sight of the performance of her religious duties, for her mind seemed to be imbued with the principles of genuine piety—of that piety which is necessary for all, but still most necessary for one in her exalted station; it being the duty of those who are born to govern the people, to be themselves the first to shew obedience to God. But it was not only in her public, but in her private devotions, that this Princess shone conspicuous. In her exalted station, the pursuits of her retired hours could not pass unnoticed; and her exercises of public devotion, which were known, fell very far short of those in private which were not known. In public, her demeanour was grave and

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serious; her eyes were never wandering in envy or admiration of the splendid apparel of the congregation; nor did the listless yawn ever betoken a desire for the service to be at an end. Those who allowed themselves any diversion from their own duties, to observe the manner in which hers were performed, found her always intent upon them, and no further drawn off than by a solemn look, to check any interruption that might sometimes happen. How appropriate is the following eulogium of Queen Mary, which was written, in 1694, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, to the Princess Charlotte:—

"The genuine fruit of the true devotion of this Princess, was Christian charity, without which the longest and loudest prayers are but pharisaical pretences; for he who loveth God, loveth his brother also. Her charity was as great as her powers, and discreet as it was great: it extended to persons of condition, who were fallen into decay, and to a very great number of meaner people, and especially to the wives and widows of inferior soldiers and seamen. Her charity was generous and unrestrained. When it was ready, nothing was denied which was fit to be asked: it could not be extorted by the unworthy, and by the worthy it needed not. In granting charities there appeared in her countenance an air of satisfaction; and, when supplies were not at hand, it was a grief to deny, but the manner of it was obliging; whilst many others, almost as often as they give a denial, create an enemy."

In the Princess Charlotte there was devotion

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without enthusiasm, charity without ostentation, and humility without that censoriousness which tramples upon the pride of others with a greater pride of its own. Discoursing one day on the inestimable benefit of religion, her Royal Highness said, I know what certain people think of those who pretend to religion; they think it is all hypocrisy; let them, however, think what they will, I may say, and I thank God I can say it, that I have never affected to appear what I was not.

It is curious to trace the contrast in the situation of two individuals, whom the nearest ties of consanguinity ought to have placed not only within the same sphere of action, but in the enjoyment of the same pleasures, and in the participation of all the benefits to which their station entitled them; but whom, a wayward destiny, or a dereliction of moral principles on the one part, has separated, to seek their individual happiness according to the ruling bias of their dispositions. Whilst the Princess Charlotte was receiving the congratulations of an admiring people, on an event from which her future happiness was to emanate; and whilst her grateful heart was pouring out its effusions in meek simplicity before her Maker, and her ears were open to receive the cheering doctrines of religion from the lips of a Christian pastor, her unfortunate mother was a resident in the palace of the Dey of Tunis, estranged from every social comfort—from every domestic bliss—from every endearment of life—a wanderer upon the earth. She was in the midst of a people, with whom to be a Christian, is to be exposed to every species of insult and

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of oppression; and who are only restrained by a fear of European vengeance, from exterminating every Christian who is so unfortunate as to fall into their hands. With a single female German servant, (for her female English establishment had been sent home on leave of absence,) was this most extraordinary personage on the shores of Africa, living almost in a state of comparative ignorance of the existence of those, who were dear to her, and scarcely conscious that there was a country which she could call her own. She appeared like the seed blown from the thistle's head, the sport of every gust, and scarcely a spot allowed it, where it could fix its root. She had not one

> Who could administer to a mind diseas'd,
> Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow,
> Raze out the written troubles of the brain,
> And with a sweet oblivious antidote
> Cleanse the stuff'd bosom of that perilous stuff
> Which weigh'd upon the heart.

On Monday the 27th, Lord Viscount Cranbourne and Mr. Masterman Ure, the members for Weymouth, went to Camelford-House in full court dresses, and were introduced into the presence of the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, to present addresses from Weymouth upon their marriage. These were not mere formal addresses, but filled with expressions of the most ardent attachment, and respect to the Princess in particular. They were signed by one hundred and sixty-eight of the most respectable inhabitants. The Prince and Princess were pleased to return the following answer:—

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" Gentlemen,

" You will be assured it affords us particular satisfaction to receive the addresses and congratulations from the town of Weymouth, so long distinguished for its firm and continued loyalty. And, we desire you will make known to the corporation and inhabitants of Weymouth, the pleasure we must always feel in the assurance of those regards and attachment."

In the evening, their Serene Highnesses honored Covent-Garden theatre with their presence for the second time. The managers and the audience were completely taken by surprise, as no notice had been communicated of the intention of the illustrious visitors. Every possible arrangement was, however, made for their reception, and they were greeted with enthusiastic acclamations by a brilliant and numerous audience. As their Highnesses did not reach the theatre until a late hour, " *God save the King*" was not sung until the conclusion of the first act of the entertainment of the " Miller and his Men."

On the 30th, the Princess Charlotte, and Prince Leopold had a numerous party to dinner at Camelford-House; and in the evening there was a select party, at which were enjoyed " The feast of reason, and the flow of soul." The Princess Charlotte delighted her guests by the performance of some beautiful sonatas on the piano-forte, composed by one of her musical preceptors, Mr. Von Esch; after which, the time was spent in conversation on the present state of literature in this country, and especially on the merits of the most distinguished poets

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of the day. Whilst the conversation was carried on, one of the most distinguished of the party was observed to be writing something on a slip of paper, which was, in a short time afterwards, handed to the Princess Charlotte, who, with a smile of evident satisfaction, read the following :—

LINES,

Supposed to be addressed by the Prince of Saxe-Coburg to the Princess Charlotte on the day of their marriage; in imitation of German poetry.

I hail the happy day, with joyful, thankful mind,
That makes thee mine—my lovely Princess.
Ever will I love thee—honor thee—give to thee
The best affections of my heart.—Thou shalt ever be
My guiding star to social joys—to sacred duties—
To dear domestic bliss—to fond endearment—
And all the pure delights of wedded love.
May I be father, and thou the mother,
To a numerous offspring.—
Daughters beauteous, pious, virtuous—Britain's ornaments!—
To sons noble, generous, valiant—Britain's boast!
And ever may connubial love be Britain's glory.
May'st thou live long, illustrious Princess,
For thou art Britain's hope!—Be happy as I wish thee.
May thy rule be righteous,—and ever may
Thy loyal, faithful people own thee
As their guardian angel *!

* I regret that a positive injunction is imposed upon me to withhold the name of the author of these lines; but I cannot refrain from thus publicly expressing my thanks to the distinguished individual, who honored me by the communication, and who confided them to me in the most liberal and flattering manner.

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The negotiations were at this time carried on with great activity for the purchase of Claremont, as Camelford-House was found to be extremely inconvenient, and in too confined a situation for the Princess Charlotte. The royal pair had often expressed their urgent wishes for a country residence, as some symptoms of indisposition had already manifested themselves in the Princess Charlotte; and some rest was deemed necessary for her from the performance of the duties which court etiquette required, and for the beneficial purpose of restoring the tone of her constitution, which had materially suffered in the bustle and turmoil of the preceding month. Her Royal Highness also at intervals experienced considerable pain in her knee, occasioned by her being obliged to remain so often in a standing attitude to receive the numerous congratulations on her marriage from all parts of the country; and the benefit of country air, joined to sedentary exercise, was strenuously recommended by her physicians.

The theatres were the chief places of amusement to which the Princess Charlotte resorted; and not only her Royal Highness, but Prince Leopold expressed a strong wish to see Mrs. Siddons in a few of her most distinguished characters, leaving it to herself to select them.

This wish was expressed in consequence of a visit which their Royal and Serene Highnesses paid to Covent-Garden theatre, on Friday the 31st of May, to see Mrs. Siddons in the part of Queen Katherine, which she was to perform for the benefit of her brother Mr. C.

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Kemble. The re-appearance of this transcendent actress and unrivalled ornament of our national drama, attracted one of the most crowded audiences which Covent-Garden theatre ever boasted of. The intended visit of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte and her illustrious consort added not a little to the general attractions of the evening. It was the first of our historical plays which Prince Leopold had ever witnessed, supported by the powers of the first tragedians of the age, and the impression which it made upon him was strong and durable. The exquisite delineation of the Queen Katherine has been long and justly distinguished for its matchless qualities, and it claimed on this occasion the full measure of critical delight and admiration. The majesty of Mrs. Siddons's deportment; the dignity of her action; the fire, the varying, the resistless expression of the eye and the whole countenance; the noble and impressive manner in which she vindicated her insulted rights; the natural emotions and transitions from tranquil and conscious innocence and purity, to pious resignation, to heroic firmness and resolution; mixed with those occasional bursts of lowering superiority, scorn and contempt, to which none but herself can give spirit, tone, and effect, were in perfect unison with the conception of the poet's genius.

There is certainly no tragedy, in the whole range of our national drama, which contains so many appropriate allusions to the unfortunate differences subsisting between the most distinguished individuals of our royal family, as that of Henry VIII. The presence

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of the Princess Charlotte made their application still more pointed, and the audience omitted no occasion on which to testify their sense of it. When, in the fourth scene of the second act, Queen Katherine says,

> Sir, I desire you, do me right and justice;
> And to bestow your pity on me: for
> I am a most poor woman, and a stranger,
> Born out of your dominions; having here
> No judge indifferent, nor no more assurance
> Of equal friendship and proceeding. Alas, Sir,
> In what have I offended you? What cause
> Hath my behaviour given to your displeasure,
> That thus you should proceed to put me off,
> And take your good grace from me?——
> ——————If, in the course
> And process of this time, you can report,
> And *prove* it too, against mine honor aught,
> My bond to wedlock, or my love and duty,
> Against your sacred person, in God's name,
> Turn me away; and let the foul'st contempt
> Shut door upon me, and so give me up
> To the sharpest kind of justice.———

The whole house rung with acclamations, and the uproar was so great, that the performance for a time was suspended; but when, in the last scene of the fourth act, Queen Katherine inquires after the health of his Majesty,—

> KATHERINE. How does his Highness?
> CAPUCIUS. Madam, in good health.
> KATH. So may he ever do! and ever flourish,
> When I shall dwell with worms, and my poor name
> *Banish'd the kingdom!* Patience, is that letter,
> I caus'd you write, yet sent away?

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PAT. No, my lady.
KATH. Sir, I most humbly pray you to deliver
This to my lord the king.
CAP. Most willingly, Madam.
KATH. In which I have commended to his goodness
The model of our chaste loves, his young daughter;—
The dews of Heav'n fall thick in blessings on her!—
Beseeching him to give her virtuous breeding;
——————————And a little
To love her for her mother's sake, that lov'd him,
Heav'n knows how dearly.————

The effect of this speech operated upon the house like an electric shock; it seemed to pervade every class of the audience, and, for some moments, the acting on the stage was mere pantomimic gesture, for not a syllable of the sentence was audible. The remainder of the act, one of the most affecting in the drama, was lost to the audience; the sonorous enunciation of Mrs. Siddons was at times faintly heard in the intervals of the calm, but the tumult in a moment broke loose again, and the drop fell at the close of the act in uproar and confusion.

On the recitation of that part, where Queen Katherine says,

She now begs,
That little thought, when first she touch'd this isle,
She should have bought her dignities so dear,

a simpleton in the pit exclaimed, "What did you come for, then?"—This renewed the uproar; and the delinquent, being discovered, made his escape almost in a state of nudity from the pit, leaving every remnant of his coat behind him.

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It is circumstances of this kind, which determine the channel in which public opinion flows; and the historian requires no better index to the complexion of the times than the sentiments which are expressed in the public assemblies of the country. To investigate the nature of the feelings of the Princess Charlotte, on this occasion, would be an act of supererogation. The affection for her mother beat warmly in her bosom; and whatever tended to prove to her, that the guilt of her mother was not credited by the public, must have been attended with the most gratifying feelings; but it was at best, a trying situation. The acquittal of one parent proved the condemnation of another; and, had she at that moment been deputed to hold the scales, who would have censured her, had she thrown the preponderating weight into the scale of the former? The pleasure which she received in the evening was, in a certain degree, embittered with grief: for there are wounds in every human heart, which are but slightly cauterized, and which the slightest effort will set bleeding afresh. The wounds of her heart are now healed for ever; but the pain which they occasioned still lies in the memory of her survivors.

A more convincing proof of the liberality of the Princess Charlotte's mind cannot be adduced, than her frequent attendance at several places of divine worship, where tenets are held not exactly conformable to those of the church of England. On Sunday, the 2d of June, her Royal Highness attended divine service at the Swiss Protestant Chapel, in Moor-street, Soho, where a sermon was preached by the Rev. M.

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Starkey, one of her Royal Highness's late tutors. The Swiss Protestant church assimilates, in a great degree, to the presbyterians of this country; and it certainly conveys the most pleasing reflections to a liberal mind, to behold the rulers of the nation discarding the false notions of an established faith, and joining in the divine worship of every sort or denomination in the true spirit of Christian toleration. The mind of the Princess Charlotte was of that enlarged and liberal cast which disregards the exterior formalities of religion; and she questioned not, ere she passed her opinion of an individual, what his religious tenets were, but whether he acted up to them; and it was that which she considered to be the true criterion of the human character. In professions, she placed little or no reliance; but she admired and applauded the individual, who, whatever his religious principles might be, acted in conformity to them, and who followed the Christian maxim, of "doing to others as he would himself be done unto."

The indisposition of the Princess Charlotte now began to assume a more serious aspect; and, on Saturday the 9th, she was declared to be in a state of high fever, accompanied with a very troublesome cough.

In compliance with the express desire of the Princess Charlotte and of Prince Leopold, Mrs. Siddons undertook the character of Lady Macbeth on the 9th; but although it was generally apprehended that the sudden and lamented illness of her Royal Highness would deprive the audience of her presence and that of the Prince her husband, yet the hope of seeing

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Mrs. Siddons filled the house at an early hour with the most splendid company of the metropolis. Neither of the illustrious personages were present.

The following bulletin respecting the Princess Charlotte's health was, on the Sunday morning, issued from Camelford-House.

"The Princess has had a good night's rest. The fever is somewhat abated. Her Royal Highness appears refreshed by sleep, but she has still a very irritable cough."

Her Royal Highness was attended by Dr. Baillie, surgeon Keate, and Mr. Walker. The Royal Family suspended their visits, as no visitors were admitted to her Royal Highness' chamber, the medical gentlemen having given their orders that she should be kept very quiet.

The indisposition of the Princess Charlotte reached its crisis on the 15th, and from that day she continued in a convalescent state. On the 18th, her recovery was declared so complete, that she appointed the following days to receive the addresses upon her marriage, the presentation of which had been postponed in consequence of her Royal Highness's indisposition.

The arrangements for the purchase of Claremont-House being completed, Mr. Huskisson rose in the House of Commons, on the 20th, and said, "he was not aware that any difference of opinion would prevail in the House, on the subject he was then about to bring forward, in pursuance of the notice he had given, namely, that of providing a country residence for the Princess Charlotte and the Prince of Saxe-Coburg; if

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there was, the only difference could be with regard to the mode in which the provision was to be made. There were only two modes that could suggest themselves to the government; the first was, that of finding a country residence in one of the palaces; the other was, that of procuring one by purchase. As soon as Claremont, the residence now intended for the illustrious individuals in question, had been fixed upon, an impartial surveyor was sent to set a valuation on it; in this he was assisted by another surveyor, and their joint report formed the foundation for the bargain, that was afterwards entered into. During the negotiation, the owner of the estate had made the most open and unreserved communications on every circumstance connected with it. Persons, who had previously valued the estate, estimated it at some thousands more than the surveyor had done; the estate was estimated at 36,000*l.*, independent of the buildings attached to it. Claremont-House was known to be in the most perfect state of repair*,

* How does this statement of Mr. Huskisson's tally with the accounts sent in by the Board of Works for repairs, &c. at Claremont, which, I am assured, amounted to the very moderate sum of 22,000*l.*, nearly one half of the purchase money? The park paling alone cost nearly 40,00*l.* When Mr. Huskisson made this statement, had he the jesuitical coachmaker in his eye, who, on selling a *carriage*, warranted it to be in *complete repair*. The wheels, however, broke on the first journey; on which the purchaser complained to the coachmaker respecting the imposition which had been practised on him, in warranting him a carriage the wheels of which were rotten. "True," said the coachmaker, "I declared the carriage to be in *complete repair*; but I said nothing about the wheels." Mr. Huskisson declares the house to be in

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and it far exceeded any thing in the modern style of building. If such a house was to be built now, it would cost 90,000*l.*; the valuation set on it was, however, no more than 19,000*l.*, and this was cheaper than if any of the palaces had been fitted up for the accommodation of the Prince and Princess. The whole sum now proposed for farm, buildings, &c., was 50,000*l.*, and the furniture was estimated at 6,000*l.* The whole would then amount to 56,000*l.*, including the furniture. He should now point out the mode in which the purchase was to be made. The commissioners under the land-tax redemption for the crown had made sales, which produced sums that now amounted to 259,000*l.* in the three per cents. The sale of some very inconsiderable manors belonging to the crown had produced a sum of 66,000*l.* It therefore appeared advisable that this fund should be made available to the purchase in question. Whatever was to be taken from the land-tax redemption fund should be replaced by the sale of certain lands of the crown. In fact, this was only giving to the illustrious personages the use of an estate still belonging to the crown, and procured by means of services belonging to the crown, and in themselves of little value. It was proposed that the estate should be settled on the parties for their joint lives; and in case of their dying before the Princess came to the throne, then the estate was to revert to the crown. He was confident, no

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complete repair, but says nothing about the paling, offices, &c., the repairs and improvements of which amounted to the sum above mentioned.

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better arrangement could be adopted for purchasing a country residence for these distinguished persons. He concluded, by moving for leave to bring in a bill for ratifying the purchase of Claremont estate, and settling the same on her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg.

Mr. Baring readily admitted that no improvident bargain had been made; but the fact was, that fifty years ago this place had been sold for 10,000*l*. It was a fallacy to say, this would cost the public nothing because the purchase was to come from the crown lands; and because the property was still available to the public service. If small and inconsiderable portions of crown lands produced so much money, it appeared highly desirable that similar bargains should be made for other unproductive crown lands for the benefit of the crown.

Mr. Huskisson in explanation stated, that when this estate was sold some years ago it produced a larger sum than that now contracted for.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. Ellis, the proprietor of Claremont, gave for the estate 53,000*l*., but his purchase included several valuable farms which he still retains. In his fortunate bargain the house and grounds were estimated at less than half that sum, and they were on sale a few years since at the price of 30,000*l*. The park consists of 300 acres, ornamented with a profusion of timber, and beautifully diversified with rising grounds, and gently sloping declivities. An agreement was entered into at the same time, that the illustrious couple were to have with the estate,

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the manors of Esher and Hulbourne, with a house on the edge of the park, which was formerly occupied by the late Mr. Justice Hardinge, and is now the residence of Sir Robert Gardiner, aid-de-camp and equerry to Prince Leopold. Five of the farms immediately adjoining the park being stocked with game, are leased by Mr. Ellis to Prince Leopold.

Sir Samuel Garth, in the preface to his poem on Claremont, says, "The situation is so agreeable and surprising, that it inclines one to think, that some place of this nature put Ovid at first upon the story of Narcissus and Echo." This is an allusion to a grotto built on a beautiful lake in the park, in the vicinity of which there is a very distinct echo. Dr. Garth thus describes it:—

A grot there was with hoary moss o'ergrown,
Rough with rude shells, and arch'd with mould'ring stone;
Sad silence reigns within the lonesome wall,
And weeping rills but whisper as they fall;
The clasping ivies up the ruin creep,
And there the bat and drowsy beetle sleep.
This cell sad Echo chose, by Love betray'd,
A fit retirement for a mourning maid;
Hither fatigued with toil, the sylvan flies,
To shun the calenture of sultry skies,
But feels a fiercer flame; Love's keenest dart,
Finds through her eyes a passage to his heart.
Pensive the virgin sate with folded arms,
Her tears but lending lustre to her charms;
With pity he beholds her wounded woes,
And wants himself the pity he bestows.

It appears, by an old document of 1697, that this now celebrated spot was originally called Esher House or Park; until, coming into the possession of

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the Earl of Clare, afterwards Duke of Newcastle, it was named by him Claremont. On this subject Sir Samuel Garth says,—

Direct me, Clare, to name some nobler Muse,
That for her theme thy late recess may choose;
Such bright descriptions shall the subject dress,
Such varied scenes, such pleasing images,
That swains shall leave their lawns, and nymphs their bowers,
And quit Arcadia for a seat like yours.
But say, who shall attempt the th' adventurous part,
When Nature borrows dress from Vanburgh's art;
If by Apollo taught, he touch the lyre,
Stones mount in columns, palaces aspire,
And rocks are animated with his fire:
'Tis he can paint in verse those rising hills,
Their gentle valleys and their silver rills;
Close groves and op'ning glades with verdure spread,
Flowers sighing sweets, and shrubs that balsam bleed;
The gay variety the prospect crown'd,
And all the bright horizon smiling round;
Whilst I attempt to tell how ancient fame
Records from whence this villa took its name.

To enter into an analysis of the origin of Claremont, as given to us by Sir Samuel Garth, would be to transcribe a motley farrago of mythological foolery, of druidical superstition, of metaphysical absurdities of natural history, including an account of the misletoe*, and a laboured panegyric on those primeval ages, when

No cook with art increas'd physicians' fees,
Nor serv'd up death in soups and fricassees.

* The origin of this plant is not generally known, and well may Sir Samuel Garth say,

The naturalists are puzzl'd to explain
How trees did first this stranger entertain.

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According to Sir William's account, the site of Claremont was formerly the abode of the Druids; for the truth of which assertion, it is presumed he has no other foundation, than the discovery of a few circular plats in the vicinity of the house; and as the circle was the mystic figure of the Druids, in the midst of which their altars were raised, it amounted, in his opinion, to almost a syllogistic demonstration, that these circular plats were formed, and could not be formed by any other individuals than the Druids.

It also appears, that the misletoe grows in abundance in the vicinity of Claremont; and as the Druids bestowed religious honors on that noxious plant, it became another presumptive proof, that they fixed their residence in that quarter, for as the misletoe could not come to them, they were obliged to go to the misletoe; and for aught I know, although Sir Samuel is silent upon the subject, for the very same purpose as we, in our degenerate days, go to the misletoe.

These, it must be allowed, are very vague grounds to be assigned for the antiquity of Claremont; and there is reason to believe, that they were adduced more with a view to gratify the vanity of the patron

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It has been ascertained, that the seeds of the misletoe are of an indigestible nature. In the winter they are picked up by the thrushes and blackbirds, and passing through them are deposited on the branches of trees, where they take root; and thus, like the blood-suckers in society, they are nurtured and fed by foreign aid.

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CLAREMONT PARK.

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of the poet, than to establish a positive fact, founded on research and observation.

The vicinity of Claremont to the east and south-east, displays a barren inhospitable appearance; Esher common, the boundary of which for a considerable distance is formed by the paling of Claremont-park, is, in many parts of it, a cold and cheerless swamp, resembling some of the uncultivated districts of Scotland, in which the dark heath and the solitary stinted fir tell alone of vegetation. The view of this barren district is, however, excluded from the house by the thickness of the plantations, and the line of vision is carried to the distant scenery, which embraces the ornamented grounds in the vicinity of the metropolis.

The situation of the house evidently shews a very correct judgment and taste in the selection, although it is not built upon the most elevated part of the property. It is, in consequence, in some degree overlooked by the tower which appears to the left of the picture which accompanies these Memoirs, and which was originally intended as an observatory, and as a *point de vue*, from which some of the most distinguished objects at a distance can be seen. In the upper part of this tower, several lines are drawn, indicative of the level of some of the most lofty of the distant objects, viz., St. Paul's, Windsor-Castle, &c. The view from this tower is beautiful and grand in the extreme; and although art may have done more to embellish the prospective views from Windsor, yet, in regard to the beauties of nature, the prospect from Claremont tower will not

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yield to that from Windsor-Castle. This tower was formerly adapted to scientific observations; but it is now converted into a kind of conservatory for indigenous plants, in the culture of which Prince Leopold possesses an extraordinary degree of science. Five hot-houses and conservatories are at this time building for the reception of the numerous exotic and indigenous plants, which have been collected from the most distant quarters; and an inestimable value is attached to many of them, owing to their having been selected and cultivated under the immediate direction of the late Princess. There is a melancholy pleasure experienced in nurturing the flower which has been planted by a beloved hand, and especially when that hand is cold and motionless in the grave: we watch its growth with the most assiduous care; we affectionately protect it from every blast which can injure it; and in the fragrance of its blossoms the memory of her is revived, who herself, transplanted to a better clime, flourishes in the sunshine of eternity.

The Claremont estate bill passed the House of Commons on the 24th of June, and received the royal assent in the House of Lords the following week.

On the evening of the 23d, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold honored Covent-Garden theatre with their presence, for the express purpose of seeing the performance of Lady Macbeth by Mrs. Siddons. They arrived at half-past six-o'clock precisely. Her Royal Highness appeared completely recovered from her late illness, and the rapturous applause with which

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she was greeted, testified the sincere and fervent pleasure, which the re-establishment of her health excited throughout the whole audience. The curtain was immediately drawn up, and "*God save the King*" was sung in a most excellent and impressive manner. As soon as Mrs. Siddons entered, she made her obeisance to the royal pair, and then saluted the audience. Her Royal Highness and the Prince rose and bowed to her with the utmost affability. The Princess Charlotte appeared delighted with the performance of this inimitable actress. She seemed to accompany her in every word of the part, turning frequently to the Prince, and expressing by her gestures the satisfaction which she felt. She applauded too as loud as any other individual of the audience; and in justice it must be allowed, that a grander display of theatrical excellence was never witnessed; it was not the usual progress of representation; it was not the succession of one scene to another, or the variety of character, or the great objects of the drama that interested the mind; but it was a perfect illusion, a fascination that rapt the attention, and completely bore away every thought and faculty to the tower of Dunsinane, and the wizard heaths which surround it. The mild and sweet airs which precede the steps of Macbeth are pregnant with national recollections, the romantic scenery, the divine poetry, could all scarcely have redeemed the artificial machinery of blazing caldrons, haggard witches, bleeding ghosts, prophetic phantoms, and unhallowed rites, which are incorporated in the tragedy; but the presence of a Siddons

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and a Kemble impressed upon them such a substantial character, and imparted to them such unexampled sublimity, as the fulness of their faith and their hopes, and the reality of their terrors, that what was before a foul superstition assumed the majesty of religion.

As soon as the tragedy terminated, "*God save the King*" was again sung, and was followed by "*Rule Britannia.*" Particular pleasure was expressed on hearing this now almost forgotten hymn once more associated with the other grand national anthem. The time was, when they both invariably went hand in hand, and it is hoped that time will return.

The burletta of "Tom Thumb" followed. Surely such a jumble of vulgarity, obscenity, and nonsense should not have been presented before the Princess Charlotte; it afforded no amusement whatever to her, and it was treated by her Royal Highness with the inattention which it deserved. This piece is at all times unworthy of our national stage; but it was peculiarly ill-suited to this occasion, and reflected no great degree of credit upon the judgment of those who selected it.

The royal pair was attended by Sir Robert Gardiner and Baron Hardenbroke. They were received at the door by Messrs. Harris, Fawcett, and Brandon, who conducted them to the Prince Regent's box. The Princess was dressed very plain, in a Waterloo green gown, white wreath of roses round her head, and but few diamonds.

In compliment to the royal couple, the audience

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was on this evening unusually splendid. The Duke and Duchess of Cumberland sat in the Marquis of Stafford's box, exactly opposite their royal relatives. The Duchess of Wellington sat in Mr. Angerstein's box.

The lamented indisposition of the Princess Charlotte prevented, for a considerable period, the numerous addresses which had been voted by counties and public bodies, from being presented to her Royal Highness and Prince Leopold, on their happy union. In consequence of this interruption, there were no less than five addresses presented on the 24th, which her Royal Highness and his Serene Highness began receiving at four o'clock, attended by Sir Robert Gardiner and Mrs. Campbell.

The Marquis of Anglesea was introduced in full regimentals, and presented an address from the county of Anglesea. To which the Princess and Prince were pleased to return the following answer:—

"Pray assure the inhabitants of the county of Anglesea, how highly we are gratified with this instance of their attention, and that we receive their congratulations with the sincerest pleasure."

A deputation from the borough of Southwark was next introduced, with an address of congratulation, consisting of Charles Calvert, Esq., Charles Barclay, Esq., the members for the Borough, Lieutenant-colonel Gartshill, the mover of the address, Mr. T. S. Benson, the seconder, together with Messrs. Herbert, F. Young, J. Trueman, J. Prestwich, and J. Clutlon.

The Prince and Princess returned the following answer:—

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"It will ever afford us satisfaction to remember this instance of regard and attention from the inhabitants of the borough of Southwark. We are assured of their interest in our happiness, and we receive their congratulations with every heartfelt satisfaction."

A numerous and highly respectable deputation from the bodies of the dissenting clergy of the three denominations, were introduced into the royal presence in due form. The reverend gentlemen were most graciously received; and the president having read the address, the Princess and Prince returned the following answer:—

"Be assured we receive the congratulations of the protestant dissenting ministers of the three denominations, with every cordial satisfaction and pleasure. And, we are well assured, in those fervent hopes they express for our mutual happiness, and for the prosperity of His Majesty's kingdoms."

The Earl of Coventry, the Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Worcester, and the Recorder of the city of Worcester, and others were introduced, with an address of congratulation from that place, and the following answer was given by the Princess and Prince:—

"We receive your assurances of regard with the greatest pleasure, and beg you to make known to the city of Worcester, with what satisfaction we must remember their congratulations."

Mr. Williams, the Recorder of Winchester, Richard Meyler, Esq., the member for that city, and Mr. Paulet Mildmay, were introduced to the Princess and Prince;

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when the Recorder having read the address, her Royal Highness and his Serene Highness returned the following answer:—

"We are much gratified with your assurances of regard, and we receive the congratulations of the city of Winchester with the greatest satisfaction."

All the noblemen and gentlemen composing the deputations who presented the addresses, were most graciously received.

A strong trait in the character of the Princess Charlotte exhibited itself after the ceremony of presenting the addresses was over. The conversation turning upon the very high and bombastic strain of panegyric of the virtues of her Royal Highness, in which one of the addresses was couched, "I remember," said her Royal Highness; "an anecdote of a German count, who, according to the custom of his country, had a list of his wines; but as, for the most obvious reasons, his cellar was not well furnished, he wrote, *List of the wines which I have*, and afterwards added, *List of the wines which I have not*. Now," continued her Royal Highness, "I wish some of these good gentlemen would follow the example of the German count, and give me a list of the virtues which I have, and also a list of the virtues which I have not. And, I am afraid, that like the list of the wines, the latter would far exceed the former*."

* If, however, we direct our attention to the nuptial addresses which were at this time presented by our Gallic neighbours, on the marriage of the Duchess of Berri, the eulogiums contained

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A few remarks on the general features and complexion of the addresses which have been lately presented to the throne, may not be considered as inappropriate or irrelevant; especially as from the general

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in our addresses will be found cold, vapid, and insipid; and, it will prove that we are far behind our polished rivals in the art of panegyrising, or in other words, in giving divine perfection to human imperfection. We only took a portion of the cornucopia of virtue, wherewith to decorate our Princess Charlotte; they totally exhausted it, to shower the whole on the head of Son Altesse Royale la Duchesse de Berri. As to personal charms, all that we have heard of the fabled beauties of the mythological deities—of a Venus in Heaven, of an Eve in Paradise, or an Helen in Troy; all falls short, very short, of the transcendent charms of her, who possessed a very slight portion indeed of them, until she was metamorphosed into the Duchess of Berri. In her walks, says one of her eulogists, she emits a sweeter fragrance around her than the roses of Arabia. The ground on which she treads is impregnated with fertility, and Sirius and Aldebaran must hide their sparkling heads, when her eyes twinkle. As a further illustration of the national character of the French, in opposition to that of the English, the following whimsical story will be sufficient. When the Princess Caroline landed in France, a little dog belonging to her, whined to follow her on shore; and the French newspapers translated his lamentations into a pretty and successful speech, praying to be taken with his mistress *to partake in the happiness of France*. A parish curate, in a small village, first addresses the Princess with an exhortation on the duties of matrimony; and concludes by telling her, that as he is convinced she is tired of his preaching, he will give her a song. His reverence accordingly, without changing his clerical habits, becomes a *Troubadour*, and sings so much *con amore*, that he ends at last with a dance. One of the prefects of the town through which she passed, thus closes his address:—He who unlooses your virgin zone, will have such a

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tone of the sentiments contained in the public addresses, a just estimate may be formed of the existing state of the public mind, respecting the particular event which has given rise to them. It is certain, that party-spirit may do much in throwing a sombre hue over every event which does not immediately favor its own particular views; and it very seldom happens that the collected voice of a nation is unanimous in its expressions of congratulation on the termination of any remarkable event. On the subject, however, of the Princess Charlotte's marriage, there appeared to be but one opinion pervading the nation: all the addresses on this occasion were conceived in terms that do honor to those who voted them, for they were at once manly and respectful. They seemed to reject, on the one hand, every thing like arrogance; and, on the other, every thing approaching to self-debasement. In fact, princes in general, and ours less so than any others, are far from requiring such humiliation; the latter are aware that the English are an observant race, scanning, but not too rigidly, the actions of their rulers, and overlooking every thing but that conduct which is calculated to excite their contempt.

Addresses, upon congratulatory occasions, are in general a disgusting compound of flattery and falsehood;

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foretaste of Heaven, that when he arrives there he will find his bliss so poor, that he will wish himself again upon the earth—*avec votre Altesse Royale.* We have much to learn in the art of flattery, before we can enter the lists with the framers of the French addresses.

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in which a servile spirit is mistaken for humility, adulation for truth, and in which the great man is exalted almost to an equality with the Deity, and transformed by the metamorphose spirit of falsehood into a paragon of perfection, and the possessor of every virtue which adorns the human character*. Such sentiments are suited only for an Algerine slave, trembling before his despotic dey; or a mandarin of all buttons performing the *ko-tou* before that son of the sun, his imperial majesty of China. Princes, such as ours, and all others if they can reason, are most honored when they are addressed with a generous and respectful freedom. The maxim is universally just, that every one, who voluntarily undervalues himself, becomes the slave of him that would depress him; and, whenever he retires from the presence of his idol, leaves behind him impressions of contempt and groveling servitude, rather than of confidence and princely approbation. The patron can never fail to discern some deception in the cringing tool; there is always a suspicious fidelity in the allegiance of abject flattery. Hence it is, that the late addresses will be read with pleasure; wholly coinciding in the opinion of Zimmermann, "that the pride, so necessary for a nation, is invariably dependent on the love of country." Circumstances may occur by which the

* The inhabitants of Shrewsbury, in one of their addresses to James I., king of England, wished that his reign might last as long as the sun, moon and stars. The King replied with great affability,—"Gentlemen, if your wishes were fulfilled, my son would be obliged to reign in the dark."

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love of country is raised to such a degree of warmth, as to produce the most excellent fruit for the state; or, in a people, no longer susceptible of freedom, it may be chilled so, that this fruit cannot arrive at maturity. The icy hand of death had seized the liberty of the Athenians, when they erected altars to the prostitutes of Demetrius; and proclaimed, by an edict, that all the decrees of Demetrius should be considered as sacred in the sight of the gods and just before men.

An increased degree of interest is attached to these addresses, as it was the Princess Charlotte's especial command, that all the originals sent to the Gazette-Office should be kept clean and returned to her. The motive was, no doubt, highly honorable to her; but it is not very difficult to estimate the real value of such compliments—like court-dresses, they are used at pleasure.

The Lord Mayor of London, the Master Warden and Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, were on the 25th introduced to his Serene Highness Prince Leopold; when the Lord Mayor presented to the Prince the freedom of the Company of Fishmongers, which his Serene Highness was graciously pleased to accept. The Lord Mayor invited the Prince to the anniversary festival.

On Sunday the 30th of June, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold had a numerous party to dinner. The entertainment given upon this occasion was sumptuous, and embraced every delicacy of the season, which was served up in the splendid marriage

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service of plate. The dinner service was very superb, combining the most tasteful, elegant, and appropriate devices, executed in the most finished style of workmanship, particularly the tureens and stands, as were the richly-chased ice pails, executed after the exact model of the celebrated antique vase brought from Italy by Sir William Hamilton.

The French, Dutch, and Spanish ambassadors were of this distinguished party, as were several of the cabinet ministers. The majority of the party went from Camelford-House to Carlton-House to tea, &c., where they met her Majesty, the Queen, Princesses Elizabeth and Mary, the Duchess of York, the Duke of Gloucester, and a numerous assemblage of distinguished characters.

The following day, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, held a court at Carlton-House; after which he held a privy council, on which occasion, his Serene Highness Prince Leopold was introduced to the council by the Lord President, sworn in a member, and took his seat at the board accordingly.

In the evening, their Serene Highnesses honored Covent-Garden theatre with their presence. The illustrious visitors observed every part of the performance with marked attention, and, the inimitable acting of Miss O'Neill appeared to excite their interest in an uncommon degree. They had books of the play in their hands, and except to these and to the stage, their eyes were scarcely directed to any other object during the evening. The play was succeeded by the romantic melo-drama of "Timour the

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Tartar," on which occasion, the quadrupeds obtained a greater portion of royal applause than the bipeds.

Although the addresses which had been hitherto presented to the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold on their marriage, had been carried in the different towns and counties without a dissentient voice, yet, it was reserved for the county of Kent to display the first symptoms of opposition, and to disturb the unanimity which had so generally prevailed on this happy occasion. The triumph of the party was, however, very short lived; for the inhabitants of Kent, feeling for the stain which had been cast upon them, rallied their forces, and in a short time, an address was agreed to, to which a greater number of signatures was attached than to almost any other address which had been presented. On the 2d July, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, attended by Sir Robert Gardiner, received the address, to which they were graciously pleased to return the following answer:—

"We most cordially accept the congratulations you offer from the town and parish of Maidstone. We can have but one feeling in whatever involves their interests and prosperity, in common with every subject of his Majesty's dominions. Our happiness, of course, can be but founded on theirs. Assure the inhabitants of Maidstone, in our name, that we receive their address with every cordial and sincere pleasure."

The Prince and Princess afterwards received an address from the county of Devon. Amongst those

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attending it were Lord Rolle, Lord Ebrington, Arthur Chichester, Esq., the high sheriff of the county, Lord Clifford, Hugh Clifford, Esq., Sir William Pole, bart., Captain Fortescue, and Colonel Hamilton.

The Prince and Princess returned the following answer:—

"We are very sensible of this mark of attachment in the inhabitants of the county of Devon; assure them, in our name, that we receive their congratulations with every heartfelt satisfaction and pleasure."

An address was afterwards presented by the honorable General Phipps and the right honorable C. Manners Sutton, from Scarborough, which the Princess and Prince answered as follows:—

"Accept our sincere thanks for your congratulations, and assure the corporation of Scarborough, that we receive their address with the highest satisfaction."

On the 5th, the Prince Regent held a levee, of which the chief attraction was, the public meeting of Prince Leopold and the Duke of Wellington. The Prince and the Duke both wore their field marshal's uniform. His Grace arrived first, and waited at the door of the entrance to receive the Prince, attended by his staff. The meeting of his Serene Highness and his Grace was marked with mutual attention, the band playing, "*God save the King.*"

The following day their Serene Highnesses had a grand dinner party, at which were present the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke of Wellington, and several other distinguished characters. After the

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breaking up of the dinner party, the Princess and Prince honored the opera with their presence.

It was, at this time discovered by the political quidnuncs of the day, that strong symptoms of jealousy had manifested themselves between the royal houses of Carlton and Camelford; and, in the genuine spirit of prognostication, the country was to be again torn by domestic feuds, similar to those of the houses of York and Lancaster. The cause of this jealousy was not less eagerly sought for, than the identity of the man with the iron mask, and,

As dire events from trivial causes flow,

the brains of the politicians were thrown into the throes of parturition, and the origin of this jealousy was at length brought forth into the world. It appears, that the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, wishing to confer every possible honor on the Duke of Wellington, invited his Grace and his staff to dinner on Wednesday July the 3d; which invitation was received, and preparations were accordingly made for the entertainment, which was to be upon the grandest scale of magnificence, in honor of the hero of Waterloo. His Grace, however, received an invitation from Lord Castlereagh, to dine on the same day with him, and the other members of the cabinet, to which his Grace politely answered, that he had been honored by the invitation of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte and his Serene Highness Prince Leopold to dinner, with his staff, and to whom therefore he stood engaged. On the morning of the Wednesday, however, his Grace received a

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notice from Carlton-House, that the Prince Regent *desired* his Grace to dine with Lord Castlereagh. Such a notice is regarded as a *command*, and an apology, stating the reason, was sent to Camelford-House.

The Duke of Wellington's staff, however, dined with the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, consisting of Lord Hill, Sir E. Paget, Sir R. Fergusson, Sir G. Walker, Sir E. Stopford, Sir C. Greville, Lord F. Somerset, Lord A. Hill, Colonel Hervey, Colonel Freemantle, Sir W. Houston, together with Lady Hill, and several other distinguished characters. The dinner was served up in a very splendid style. In addition to the new silver table service, there was a most highly finished *plateau*, and an elegant new dessert service, with emblematical devices, appropriate to the occasion. After dinner, the Duke of Wellington paid his respects to the Princess and Prince.

In the above circumstance, an existing difference was perceived in the royal houses of Carlton and Camelford; and the daily journals descanted upon it, according to their own party views, giving an importance to a common occurrence which it by no means intrinsically deserved.

At this time a sudden indisposition again befel the Princess Charlotte; but, as far as the circumstances of it were rendered public, it was more calculated to excite joy than fear throughout the nation. Though the veil of secrecy was studiously thrown over every avenue to the real cause of her Royal Highness's indisposition, yet, through some unguarded loop-holes, it

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burst forth, and the various remedies which were resorted to, confirmed the opinion which had been formed of the real state of her Royal Highness's health. Anticipation saw the illustrious line of Brunswick borne to the latest ages, and the internal peace of the country preserved by a legitimate succession to the crown.

During this indisposition of the Princess Charlotte, two interesting events occurred in the royal circle, in one of which it was the anxious wish of her Royal Highness to have participated. The first was, the presentation of the freedom of the city of London to their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent, Sussex, and Gloucester, and to his Serene Highness Prince Leopold of Coburg Saalfeld. This ceremony took place on the 11th of July, and was accompanied with a splendor unparalleled on any similar occasion. The Royal Dukes and his Serene Highness arrived at Guildhall between four and five o'clock, and accompanied the Lord Mayor in the procession, with the usual formalities, to the hustings in the grand hall. The chamberlain advanced to the table, and having read the resolution, forming the ground-work of the proceedings, first to the Duke of Kent, who stood opposite to him, and afterwards to his illustrious relatives, successively, he tendered to each the usual oath, with the emblazoned parchment roll of freedom, and the box, accompanied by an appropriate address. On presenting the box to Prince Leopold, the Chamberlain thus addressed him:—

"After the recent congratulations offered to your

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Serene Highness by the court of common-council, on your auspicious nuptials with the virtuous and amiable Princess Charlotte Augusta, presumptive heiress to the throne of these realms, and their eulogiums on the dignity of your princely house, and the great personal qualities of your Serene Highness, it would ill become me to enlarge upon that which has been so well expressed by our learned Recorder, and so graciously accepted by your Serene Highness.

" But I hope I shall not be thought intrusive, if I avail myself of this occasion to offer my individual expressions of admiration of the glorious and never-to-be forgotten exertions of your Serene Highness in that momentous struggle for the independence of nations, which has terminated in the overthrow of the greatest tyranny which has for ages afflicted the civilized world.

" Allow me, Sir, to express a wish that you may long continue in the possession of connubial felicity; that your royal bride may crown our wishes with a race of princes, who may inherit the virtues and the graces of their parents, and be willing and able to protect the citizens of London in the enjoyment of those invaluable privileges which have been handed down to them by their ancestors, the preservation of which is not less essential to the interest of the state, than dear to those whom your Serene Highness has condescended to call your fellow-citizens."

Prince Leopold read his answer, with an emotion and grace that excited peculiar interest in the assembly. It was as follows:—

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"My Lord Mayor and Gentlemen,

"I cannot sufficiently express to you my sense and feeling of this new mark of the regard of the city of London. I hope I need not declare with what happiness I see myself one among your members, and with the privilege of making your interest my own; believe me, it will ever be my endeavour, as it will be my first hope, to see the commerce of this city upheld with every prosperity and continued greatness."

The box presented to the Prince was truly elegant; it was made of oak, cut out of a plank of one of the vessels engaged in the celebrated battle of Trafalgar. The workmanship was admirable; the city arms in the centre, and in the different compartments appear the rose, the shamrock, the thistle, and other emblematical and national devices, highly studded and set round with diamonds.

A sumptuous dinner was afterwards given at the Mansion-House by the Lord Mayor to his illustrious visitors, and at nine o'clock the doors were hospitably thrown open for the reception of guests to an evening promenade, refreshments, and a grand ball. The number who attended were estimated at nearly fifteen hundred.

The grand entertainment which was given by the Prince Regent at Carlton-House, on the 14th, lost one of its chief points of attraction in the Princess Charlotte, who was prevented from joining in the festive throng by her continued indisposition. Although, by the bulletin of the day, her Royal Highness was declared in a convalescent state, yet, in order to effect

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a complete recovery, a state of quiet was strongly recommended by her physicians; and it was consequently determined that her Royal Highness should not be exposed to the fatigue and noise attendant on these royal routs. Prince Leopold, however, joined the royal party, attended by Sir Robert Gardiner, Baron Hardenbroke, and Colonel Addenbrook.

The restoration of peace, and the unrestricted intercourse with France, produced in the country at this period a mania for every thing that was French. With the follies, the fashions of that volatile nation were adopted; and the British manufacturer saw with the greatest concern, the substitution of foreign articles of dress for those, which could have been produced at a cheaper rate at home, and, in some instances, of a quality far superior. The complaints of the suffering manufacturers of the country soon reached the ears of those who, on account of their exalted station, could control the adoption or the disuse of any particular mode of dress, or of the articles which compose it; and, accordingly, with the true feelings of a patriot prince, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent commanded, in the most considerate manner, a note to accompany the card of invitation to the grand entertainment just mentioned, expressing himself desirous that the nobility and gentry would appear in dresses of British manufacture.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte extended her patriotic dispositions still farther. It was explicitly announced to her establishment, that her Royal Highness expected they would wear in future;

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only British manufacture. An order was at the same time sent to her dress-makers, &c., not to introduce any thing foreign into articles prepared for her Royal Highness, on pain of incurring her displeasure, and of being no longer employed.

It is well known, that the servants of the higher classes are the chief supporters of the smugglers in all foreign articles of dress; from whose hands they at length find their way into the wardrobe of their mistress. The Princess Charlotte was well aware of this system of traffic which was carried on; and one day an Indian shawl was handed to her Royal Highness, of the most exquisite workmanship, the value of which was estimated at 3,000 guineas. Her Royal Highness informed herself of the clandestine manner in which the shawl had been brought into the country, and after giving a severe rebuke to the person who had tendered it to her,—she said, "In the first place, I cannot afford to give 3,000 guineas for a shawl; and in the second, a Norwich shawl of the value of half-a-crown, and manufactured by a native of England, would become me better than the costliest article which the loom of India ever produced."

This circumstance gave rise to an order which the Princess Charlotte immediately issued, that an immediate dismissal from her establishment would be the consequence of the purchase of any foreign articles of dress from the itinerant venders, who infest the royal palaces and the residences of the nobility.

In all her actions, the Princess Charlotte appeared to be deeply impressed with the dignity and import-

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ance of the female character, in connexion with the administration of regal affairs; and it was her constant study to form her character according to the bright and excellent models which ancient and modern history presented to her contemplation. She was not one of those common-place characters, who take their opinion of men and things from the judgment of others; and who, before they decide on a particular line of conduct, ask themselves, how such and such an individual would have acted under similar circumstances. Her mode of action was original; it did not arise from the hasty decision of the moment, nor from the immediate impulse of an enthusiastic temperament; but it was the result of close and mature deliberation, in which the effects were viewed in all their bearings, maintaining at the same time a due relation to public and private interests.

In the perusal of the ancient and modern historians, her Royal Highness took particular pleasure in collecting, as in one focus, the character of the most eminent females, who by their actions excited the admiration and gratitude of their cotemporaries; and she considered it as by no means a matter of mere speculation, that the character of a perfect monarch might be formed by a union and adoption of their respective virtues.

Her Royal Highness was accustomed to say, that she could enumerate ten females, who had ruled over the destinies of their respective nations, whose virtues she could wish to combine in herself, and she would then appear to the world as the perfect model of a queen.

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The first was *Isis*, placed by the Egyptians in the rank of the divinities, in grateful remembrance of the great benefits which she had conferred upon them.

The second was *Zarine*, queen of the Scythians, who, after her death, had military honors paid to her on account of the political institutions which she established, and the patronage which she bestowed on the arts and sciences.

The third was *Lucretia*, provoking, by the sacrifice of her life, the abolition of the tyranny under which her country groaned.

The fourth was *Semiramis*, obtaining by her valor for the arms of Ninus, that success of which he himself despaired, and occupying at last the throne of Assyria with the greatest splendor and renown.

The fifth was *Zenobia*, weighing for a time in her hands in Palmyra, the fortune of the Romans, and exhibiting herself, after her defeat, even greater than during her defence.

The sixth was queen *Blanche*, governing peaceably a great kingdom, during a period when religious fanaticism had seized the minds of the people, and in consequence of which the greatest crimes were committed.

The seventh was *Berengere*, the sister of Blanche, queen of Castile, who was besieged by the Moors in the castle of Oxexa, and triumphed over their whole army by a single trait of her genius.

The eighth was *Elizabeth* of England.

The ninth was *Maria Theresa* of Austria.

And the tenth was *Catherine* of Russia.

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The mind and heart of the Princess Charlotte may now be said to have assumed that vigorous tone, and that fixed and settled bias, which so eminently distinguished her during her short sojourn upon the earth. Her character was bold and distinguished, not marked by puerilities, nor partaking of those eccentricities which are in general the result of a disordered imagination. A happy combination of modesty and humility characterized all her deportment, and in a very conspicuous manner influenced her private conduct, and her public transactions. She considered no time misspent, and no pains ill bestowed in the search after truth, and she was incessantly employed in examining for herself, and divesting herself of an unlimited confidence in the mere *ipse dixit* of another. Sophistry and every species of evasion in argument excited her just abhorrence, seldom or never could it escape her penetrating eye; and, whenever she did detect it, no considerations could deter her from expressing the most marked disapprobation. Her own conceptions were clear, her language perspicuous, and her intentions upright. There was such a transparency in the whole stream of her discourse, that it was easy to see to the very bottom of her motives and principles.

In the most exalted stations, there is one certain order of obligations and of difficulties; the duties of a general, of a minister, and even of a king, are marked and distinguished by the very place which they occupy; those of the heir-apparent to the throne, appear less distinct, but are in reality not less enlarged and ex-

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tensive. Being at that time only the first of subjects, but born at a future period to be the monarch, it became the heir-apparent, in giving an example of submission, to render herself worthy of the throne, and by constantly obeying, to learn the art of governing. Great and sublime as this situation appears, it is nevertheless one of the most painful and delicate nature; the glory which it promises is bereft of splendor; the obligations which it imposes, appear to be in mutual opposition to each other; it disdains the common virtues as insufficient, the extraordinary talents which it requires, may in themselves become dangerous, and its repose or inaction possesses in an equal manner their inconveniences and their dangers. It is, therefore, in the midst of perils and on the brink of a precipice, that Providence has placed the heir to a crown. If he possess not the virtues of a subject, he will be wanting as a king; if he possess not the virtues of a king, he will be wanting towards his people.

These were the principles on which the Princess Charlotte modelled her political life; she never lost sight of the high station to which she was born, and her sole study appeared to be, to make herself fully acquainted with its important duties, and so to cultivate her heart and mind, that the performance of them might become natural and easy to her. She regarded the great political events of the times with a keen and steady eye; she penetrated into the designs of the contending parties, and the deep veil in which

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they were apparently wrapped, appeared to her pervading mind of a cobweb texture.

In whatever manner a court is constituted, a baneful air pervades it, injurious to political virtue and independence. If it be not the theatre of sedition and revolt, it is often the abode of ambition and cupidity. However wisely a government may be formed, mild or severe, economical or liberal, it is impossible to provide against all cases of necessity, or to bestow ample satisfaction upon every complaint which is made. Incessantly occupied with the attainment of power and riches, or in preserving those already gained, the restless courtier is never satisfied, nor easy; considering every favor as a right, and every refusal as an injustice; viewing in the public affairs only his own disputes, or his personal relations; calumniating every intention, and even those designs which are crowned with success, he sacrifices every thing to the object of his desires; and when he can no longer attain it, he appears to console himself in troubling the court of which he complains by his intrigues, and sacrificing the state itself to his secret vengeance. When a kingdom is agitated, the court is always the focus of the fire which devours it; when it is tranquil, it nourishes within itself a secret fire, similar to the volcanoes, in the heart of which, those dreadful tempests are formed which lay desolate the face of the earth.

The Princess Charlotte was well aware of the perils which environ the heiress presumptive to a crown;

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an interference on her part, in any great political question, in which her influence might be felt, she considered as exposing herself to animadversion and to danger; and, on the other hand, a total indifference towards it betrayed a lukewarmness to the interests of the nation, and a neglect in seeking every opportunity by which her share of political knowledge might be increased. She was aware of the freedom with which the English people canvass the actions of their princes; and she knew well the impossibility of so regulating their conduct, that, from some quarter or another, the breath of calumny should not reach them.

The majesty of the throne, which encircles an heir apparent, without investing him with any real power, bestows upon him an influence, which, if improperly directed, may become dangerous to the state; if he be ignorant of the affairs of government, his incapability of administering them will, on his accession to the throne, soon display itself, and a too active interference may set the whole machinery of the executive power in confusion.

A prudent but dignified secession from any interference in political affairs, became the leading rule of the conduct of the Princess Charlotte. "I cannot," she said, "form the happiness of the present generation—but I can, and I ought to announce to the future one, those prospects of happiness for which I will prepare myself to give them." The throne gives a splendor to virtues, but they should not take their origin there;—the heir to a crown ought to contract a previous habitude of those virtues, which will be neces-

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sary; and, although their effects may be for a time diminished or concealed, they carry with them a future presage of public felicity.

Sympathy with the sufferings of others was not among the least of the eminent qualities of the Princess Charlotte. An affectionate disposition may, and indeed will, by a generous participation, share another's woes, even though it has not yet tasted the bitterness of bereavement or personal affliction of any kind; but in order to afford effectual consolation to the mourner, it seems requisite, that the person, whose friendly spirit hastens to his relief, should have been himself a sufferer, that he may be duly qualified to select appropriate language, and that the distressed individual himself may be impressed with the consciousness that his words are not words of course. Experience is the best of all instructors; and affliction superinduces a sensibility, and teaches a language which cannot possibly be attained in any degree of perfection by any other process. That the Princess Charlotte had never gained that experience must be admitted on all sides, for her station and rank in life precluded the possibility of knowing the privations of human life from experience; but she attained to the knowledge of them by the generous impulses of her heart, and her sensibility taught her the method of giving, without wounding the feelings of the receiver. She might say with Job,

"What shall I do when God riseth up, if I have withheld the poor from their desire, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail? or have eaten my mor-

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sel, myself alone, and the fatherless hath not eaten thereof. If I have seen any perish for want of clothing, or any poor without covering?"

Perhaps no one ever attended more scrupulously to the injunction of her Saviour than the Princess Charlotte: "When thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth; that thine alms may be in secret." In every thing her Royal Highness was unostentatious, but especially in works of charity. Satisfied with the approbation of her conscience and of her God, she manifested no solicitude for the applauses of men, and was content to do good without being praised for it. No book records her actions, except the register of Heaven; there she now sees them written, and the bliss of the seraphim is her reward.

The most important study of the Princess Charlotte was religion; and woe to the people, whose princes neglect to make that sublime study their first object. If it has been commanded by the Almighty to the kings of the earth—"that his book shall be with them, and they shall read therein all the days of their life, that they may learn to fear the Lord their God, to keep all the words of his law and his statutes to do them," it is as much for the happiness of their subjects, as for their own sanctification. The fear of an eternal punishment is almost the only check upon kings to the exercise of their passions; and the princes of the earth should never cease to think, *that God standeth in the congregation of the mighty, he judgeth among the kings.*

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Christianity, in the opinion of the Princess Charlotte, was not of a sombre or superstitious nature; she examined its origin and its character, its mysteries, its morals, its dogmas, and its promises; and this examination, so far from altering her faith, confirmed her in her submission to the decisions of the Christian church—instilled into her mind a due respect for its rites, and a strict veneration for its ordinances; and this effect will be always produced upon a pure and impartial mind by the study of religion. The divine law fears not discussion; it is like the ore which becomes purer the more it is analyzed, and reflects the brightness of its splendor on all who encircle it. With the Princess Charlotte, religion had completed the work of nature;—she was kind and gentle upon principle; and if the emotions of anger at any time arose in her mind, they were instantly suppressed as a weakness unworthy of the woman,—as a sin, unbecoming a Christian. The Princess Charlotte might, with justice, quote the words of Henry IV.:—"Ceux qui suivent tout droit leur conscience, sont de ma religion; et moi, je suis de celle de tous ceux la qui sont braves et bons."—"They who follow strictly their conscience are of my religion, and I am of the religion of all those who are good and virtuous."

The convalescence of her Royal Highness was watched in the most anxious manner, and her continued confinement gave rise to some reports of rather a disheartening nature. The bud, springing from a tree of a rare species, is regarded with feelings of the tenderest solicitude, and all the attentions which skill

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or ingenuity can devise, are lavished upon the parent stock, to enable it to bring its scion to maturity. It may be protected from the chilling blast of the mildew, but a cankerous worm steals into the bud, and the hopes of the propagation of the species becomes blighted—perhaps, for ever.

The luminary of heaven shines though we see him not; and deeply as the actions and affairs of royalty may be shrouded in the veil of secrecy, a bold and prying hand will at times uplift it;

> "and things then creep
> Throughout the hidden uranny of the night,
> Which set the gabbling tongues of men afloat,
> Till Truth comes wrapt in Falsehood's sable garb,
> And that which was, is chang'd to that which may be."

The cause of the Princess Charlotte's indisposition adduced to the public, was a cold caught at the Opera-house, and certainly it was within the range of possibility, that her Royal Highness should be indisposed with a cold, especially as the Opera-house amongst the other great and essential benefits which it confers upon the country, (one of which is the high state of morality which it inculcates,) has been long celebrated for imparting that species of indisposition, under which her Royal Highness was then said to be suffering. Whatever construction, however, delicacy or private interests might attach to the indisposition of the Princess Charlotte, it at length transpired,—that the hopes which the nation had formed, had no immediate

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prospect of being realized, but, on the contrary, that they must for a time be considered as annihilated.

Another circumstance, of a nature peculiarly interesting to the Princess Charlotte, occurred during her indisposition, which was the marriage of the Princess Mary to the Duke of Gloucester. Amongst the female branches of the Royal Family, the Princess Mary had been long the selected favorite of the Princess Charlotte, and the latter had not forgotten the tears which the Princess Mary shed on the day of her marriage with Prince Leopold, nor the endearing behaviour which always so particularly distinguished the conduct of her royal aunt, at a period when consolation and sympathy were so necessary to her. It was, therefore, a source of unfeigned regret to her, that she should be debarred the pleasure of witnessing the nuptials of her royal aunt*, which in some respects bore a great affinity to her own, as the union proceeded not from political motives, but from a long existing attachment founded on mutual regard and esteem.

There was also something peculiarly interesting in the manner in which the Princess Mary repaired to Camelford-House a few days previously to her marriage, to take her leave of the Princess Charlotte; in

* In a cotemporary anonymous publication, it is stated, that the Princess Charlotte was present at the nuptials of her royal aunt; it is, however, a mis-statement; but this error would not have been noticed, had not a particular event at that time taken place in the Royal Family, which resulted solely from the absence of the Princess Charlotte at the nuptials.

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this meeting, none of the distinguishing traits of royal etiquette presented themselves, but the pure unsophisticated feelings of mutual attachment were shewn, and the wishes for each other's happiness came from the heart, not from the lips. That no restraint might be imposed upon the royal friends, the Princess Mary paid her parting visit alone, unaccompanied by the Queen, or any of the other Princesses; and the interview was not without its painful, but at the same time pleasing emotions.

The marriage of the Princess Mary and the Duke of Gloucester was solemnized on the 22d of July. The persons invited were precisely those who were present at the marriage of the Princess Charlotte, with very few exceptions; and probably there never was a marriage which gave more general satisfaction, or was more highly approved of; the illustrious individuals both being so well known; and the more they are known, the more they will be admired in public and in private life, for the excellence of their virtues and their congenial habits. The Duke is universally known to the public at large for the warm support which he gives to a number of excellent institutions, not only by his presence, but with his purse. His liberality is not confined to societies alone, but his pocket is always open to relieve private cases of distress; and in a number of instances, he does not let his left hand know what his right hand doth. His philanthropy and generosity are the theme of those of his establishment by whom he is truly beloved.

The public and private character of the Princess is

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principally known at Windsor, where she has chiefly resided with her august parents. There she was the foremost in supporting several excellent schools. She walked about a great deal, visiting poor families, and relieving them without its being known to a third person. Many poor children she not only educated, but maintained them at her own expense; in fact, her benevolence was unbounded. The poor of Windsor felt a great loss in the removal of her Royal Highness from the Castle, and the resident nobility and gentry an equal degree of regret. She distributed pieces of plate to her chosen favorites and intimates, and those who parted with her were bathed in tears of affection, wishing her every happiness in her union.

The solemnization of the marriage was retarded for some time on account of the non-arrival of the Duke of Cambridge from Hanover, it being the particular wish of the Princess Mary, that her royal brother should give her away.

Prince Leopold attended the marriage in great state, accompanied by Sir Robert Gardiner, Baron Hardenbroke, and Colonel Addenbrook.

It having been determined, that the solemnization of the marriage should take place in the grand saloon of the Queen's palace, a most superb altar was erected there. The new throne, which was put up directly over the principal door to the grand entrance for the Queen, to receive the addresses upon the marriage of the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, formed the back of the altar. The whole was covered with crimson velvet and gold lace, principally from the chapel

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royal and Whitehall chapel, with the cushions and stools. The gold communion plate was the most massy and costly that ever was displayed upon one occasion. It consisted of the altar plate, belonging to King William, from Whitehall chapel; two uncommonly large dishes, richly chased, with appropriate devices of our Lord's last supper with his disciples; two immensely large flagons from the chapel royal, beautifully chased; also a number of ewers, and several chalices of solid gold. Each corner had most superbly gilt tripods for six candles. The ceremony was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishop of London; the responses by the Reverend Dr. Cookson, and the Reverend F. W. Blomberg, the clerks of the closet.

At a quarter before ten o'clock, the bride having taken off her wedding clothes, and dressed for travelling, in a white satin pelisse, and a white satin French bonnet, the travelling post-chaise of the Duke drove up to the side-door. Her Royal Highness advanced, leaning upon the Prince Regent's arm, followed by the Duke of Cambridge; they both saluted their royal sister, and handed her into her carriage, then embraced the Duke of Gloucester, and he stepped into the carriage; the Prince and Duke of Cambridge bidding them good night, wishing God to bless them, &c.; they then cautioned the drivers to go steadily, and they drove off to Bagshot, amidst the huzzas of the multitude, and the band playing "*God save the King.*"

The Princess Charlotte was confined to her apartments in Camelford-House for nearly a fortnight after

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the marriage, and it was not until the 8th of August, that her Royal Highness ventured out, when she took an airing in her open barouche on the Harrow-road. On the following day she took another short ride on the Chelsea road, accompanied by Prince Leopold.

Prince Leopold was also at this time very much indisposed, arising from an attack, similar to that which he experienced soon after his arrival in England, of the rheumatism in his head, and accompanied with a very violent tooth-ache. His Serene Highness underwent the painful operation of having a tooth drawn. He was confined to Camelford-House during a whole week.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester paid their first visit, after their marriage, to the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, on the 7th. The inconvenience of Camelford-House was by this time found to be so great, and the objections of the Princess Charlotte to that residence were so insuperable, on account of its being so dull and close, that an immediate examination of Cumberland-House was instituted; and an actual arrangement had at one time taken place, which specified, that it should be put into the most complete repair, and rendered in all respects an appropriate residence for the illustrious couple. It redounds, however, highly to the character of the Princess Charlotte and of Prince Leopold, that the expense which the repairs of Cumberland-House would occasion to the nation, was no sooner laid before them, than they immediately relinquished the idea of removing to that residence; and they determined, rather than add to

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the burdens of the country, to accept of apartments in Kensington-Palace. The Princess Charlotte expressed a wish to have those which had been formerly occupied by her mother, to which were to be annexed the apartments of the Duke of Kent, during the absence of his Royal Highness on the continent. This arrangement was, however, subsequently abandoned, as the purchase of Claremont had been completed, and a desire had been expressed by the Princess Charlotte to retire into the country as soon as Claremont-House could be got ready for her reception.

It cannot have escaped the recollection of those who keep a vigilant eye upon the passing events of the day, and especially upon those, which have any reference to the most distinguished characters of the kingdom, with what a deep speculative interest, the absence of a distinguished member of the royal family from Camelford-House, during the indisposition of the Princess Charlotte, was regarded. It had been long a subject of notoriety, that the most cordial affection did not exist between the Princess Charlotte and the illustrious individual alluded to, and every circumstance was greedily seized upon by the public which could unravel the clue to the difference, or which could betray its growth or its decrease. From the secrecy which is in general attached to the actions and motives of royalty, it cannot be exactly ascertained whether it were in deference to popular opinion, or in conformity to the cold dictates of etiquette, that on Friday the 9th, the Queen and Princess Elizabeth

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partook of a repast with the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, and at half-past two o'clock, accompanied by the latter, proceeded to Camelford-House, on a visit to the Princess Charlotte, where they remained about three quarters of an hour. When the seeds of disaffection exist in the human heart, every trivial circumstance, which in any other case would have failed of effect, gives an additional vigour to their growth, and causes them to take so deep a root, that no after vigilance or exertion can eradicate them. Injuries, the remembrance of which have been softened by the lapse of time, then present themselves to the memory in their full original poignancy, and the heart becomes steeled against the admission of those softer feelings, which are inculcated by the charities of our nature. Every family, under whatever relation it may stand in life, has its dissensions, its likings, and its aversions, and it would be an anomaly in the general and established construction of society, were a family, constituted as the Royal Family of England appears to the world, not to exhibit those distinct and separate shades, which are the distinguishing marks of human society. There is, however, a line which delicacy will always draw in the exposure of those acts of individuals, which have no bearing on the public interest, and the promulgation of which has a direct tendency to gratify the malicious dispositions of those who are ever on the alert to discover and to magnify the errors of those who are not of the same party as themselves.

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Any circumstance, which has once attracted the public attention in this country, is raked and sifted to the bottom, to discover its most minute and constituent parts. It passes through the strictest analysis in the powerful alembic of the public mind; and it seldom happens, that its composition, though disguised by consummate art, be not discovered. It was rumoured, at the time, that this visit of the Queen to Camelford House was not exactly of a private nature, but had some reference to an important subject, which was again to be brought upon the tapis, and in which the dearest feelings of the Princess Charlotte were concerned. The result will shew that there was some foundation for the rumour.

On the same day, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent dined at Camelford-House, where he was met by the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Esterhazy, the Marquis of Anglesea, the Marquis of Camden, the Earl of Yarmouth, Viscount Castlereagh, Lord John Thynne, and several distinguished individuals.

During the protracted confinement of the Princess Charlotte, her mind was chiefly occupied in the study of our best ethical and theological writers. Of the latter, she always spoke without the least restraint, as it was a grounded maxim with her Royal Highness, that religious controversy had done more injury to the beauty and simplicity of the Christian religion, as handed down to us by its Divine Founder, than any other cause which could be mentioned. With regard to religious prejudices, her Royal Highness entertained the most tolerating sentiments. "In ancient days," said

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her Royal Highness, discoursing with an amiable lady*, who enjoyed her confidence in a particular degree, "it was the principal characteristic of a philosopher, to treat with respect the religious prejudices of his countrymen; whatever may be my sentiments with regard to the popular objects of adoration, I am too thoroughly convinced of my own liability to error, to expose the mistakes of others to contempt; but when I behold errors which not only afford a momentary

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* To this Lady I publicly acknowledge myself indebted for many interesting circumstances, connected with the private life of the much lamented object of these Memoirs, which will appear in the sequel of this work, and which I do not doubt, will be greedily seized upon by the publishers of the Liverpool and Bungay editions of the Memoirs of the Princess Charlotte, as the genuine result of their own researches. I admire open and manly competition, as it is a powerful stimulus to genius, and produces a spirit of emulation, which must consequently be productive of the most beneficial results; but I heartily despise the individuals, who, from ignorance and incompetency, erect a fabric from materials collected by the perseverance, assiduity, and expense of another, and then palm it upon the world as the offspring of their own immediate researches. The mole, the secret miner of the soil, who, in a moment, defaces the skilful labours of the horticulturist; or the cuckoo who usurps the nest of another to nourish its bastard brood, are, in their noxious dispositions, to be compared to a FISHER, who, not knowing where to throw his line in the stream of events, by which some of a *royal nature* can be hooked, quietly awaits the skill of another, who no sooner drags them forth, than the *conscientious FISHER* seizes upon them as his own, and in triumph proclaims to the world, that by his MAGGOTS he has caught them. "More of this, anon," says *Shakspeare*.

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satisfaction, but even wipe away the tear from the eye of misery, and blunt the keenest edge of sorrow; I should suspect either the weakness of my intellect, or the badness of my heart, had I felt for a moment inclined to treat with levity such sacred prejudices."

The mind, from which these sentiments could flow, must have been of no common stamp, and induces the melancholy reflection of what importance the actions of that individual would have been, had it pleased Heaven to have prolonged her sojourn amongst us. To those, who view her in the light of a religious princess, the following passage will be perused with no common interest, as it is her own composition, and the high quarter from which it has been so handsomely and graciously transmitted, leaves no doubt of its being the genuine composition of her Royal Highness, and the poetry which accompanies it, gives a new feature to her character. It bears the date of August 10th, 1816.

" It is a comfort to every honest mind, to reflect
" that God sits at the helm of this floating universe;
" and directs all its motions to their proper ends, by
" the unerring compass of his eternal mind. Under all
" his dispensations, we may satisfy ourselves with this
" assurance, that the Judge of all the earth can do
" nothing but what is right. Let me not canvass the
" ways of infinite Wisdom with too great arrogance, nor
" arraign his justice, if I see the guilty triumph, whilst the
" righteous beg their bread. Though at present we are
" lost in a maze of difficulties, and cannot reconcile the

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" appearance of things, though we see rewards and
" punishments distributed with an unequal hand, yet at
" last, when our intellectual faculties shall be enlarged,
" we shall see that all things were conducted by an infi-
" nitely wise and just Being; and find one regular uni-
" form series of events, where before we saw nothing
" but a chaos, a scene of confusion.

* * * * * * * *

" Human reason, weak as it is, can trace out the
" Creator in his works, and from the things which
" are seen, infer the invisible glory and power of Him
" who gave life and being unto all things; but still
" his ways are by us unsearchable, and his thoughts
" past finding out. ——————————,
" This is my notion of a particular Providence; and
" taken in its genuine uncorrupted sense, I am sure it
" is capable of promoting the interest of religion, and
" of establishing a sure foundation for piety and
" virtue.

" Hail, sacred Source of bliss!—Hail, heavenly Sire!
" Eternal, uncreate, almighty Lord!
" Disposer of my being, hail!—and, still indulgent,
" Accept for mercies infinite, and boundless blessings,
" The pure effusions of a thankful heart,
" Impress'd with warmest gratitude and awe
" Of the divine omnipotence, for benefits
" By such a lib'ral hand profusely giv'n;
" Not merited—bounteously dispensed
" Out of thy mercy and unwearied kindness.
" Man's utmost thanks are miserably faint
" For any, e'en the smallest of thy gifts;

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" What tongue can speak—what language can afford
" A flow of words, to thank thee for our being!
" The care and preservation which attend it
" Each day and night succeeding—nay, ourselves
" Are glorious proofs of thy protecting love.
" What joy should animate our raptur'd hearts!
" What humble, grateful, large acknowledgments
" For the rich blessings which attend thy grace!
" But, above all, in these our happy times,
" The free enjoyment of our Christian faith.
" Now superstition and mistaken zeal,
" In a mistaken cause, fly swift before
" The radiant beams of truth and pure religion.
" Father of Mercy! incomprehensible and just!
" Who, from the worst of causes, changing the effect,
" Can work out good, instruct me to rejoice
" And praise thy goodness, which has cast my lot
" In these far happier days, than heretofore,
" When blind enthusiasm vex'd mankind,
" And for religion, broke religion's laws."

* * * * *

At the bottom of these lines was written the following quotation from the tragedy of Cato :—

" The ways of Heaven are dark and intricate,
" Puzzled in mazes, and perplex'd with error;
" The human understanding traces them in vain,
" Lost and bewilder'd in the fruitless search;
" Nor sees with how much art the windings run,
" Nor where the regular confusion ends."

The happiness of the early years of the Princess Charlotte had been imbittered by the unfortunate dissensions of her parents; and she was doomed to hear the jarring string of discord to the latest hours of

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her life. The Quixotic expeditions of the Princess of Wales on the coasts of the Mediterranean, and in the Ottoman empire, are stamped with too great a notoriety to be here commented upon. That they were calculated to draw down upon her the suspicious glances of her enemies, and to expose her to the rudest blasts of calumny, which were ever vented against the character of a female, cannot admit of the smallest doubt; that their impropriety was great, not to call it by a harsher epithet, was unquestionable; and had she adhered to the advice, so often and so wisely given to her by her friends in England, she would have thwarted the designs of her enemies, by the adoption of a life of dignified retirement; and thereby have preserved herself from even the suspicion of infidelity, and have saved her beloved daughter many a painful tear, which flowed at the continual reports which were industriously conveyed to her of the aberrations of her mother from the established dictates of propriety, decorum, and virtue.

It was in the middle of August, 1816, that some reports, very injurious to the character of the Princess of Wales, began to be circulated, and which had an evident tendency to revive the long dormant question of a divorce.

That the serious charge, on which these reports were founded, could be either authenticated or substantiated, never for a moment obtained the slightest belief in the mind of the Princess Charlotte; but they certainly tended, in no small degree, to retard her convalescence, as they inflicted the severest wound upon her filial

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feelings, which could not be healed by the skill of her physician, and the pain of which was increased, because she was obliged to endure it *in secret*.

One day, when her Royal Highness was conversing with one of the members of the Royal Family on this important subject, some severe expressions of censure were used, and some very appropriate passages from Scripture were introduced. Her Royal Highness listened for a time with great attention, and then with much mildness, and, at the same time, with much point, said to her royal relative,—" I may say to you what Queen Elizabeth said to her prelate, who was censuring her for some part of her conduct respecting the Earl of Essex, and who, to enforce his arguments, made use of many passages from Scripture,—' I see,' said her Majesty, ' that you are tolerably well versed in the Bible, but I question much whether you ever read the *Book of Kings*.' "

The insolence and the affront which had been offered to the English flag by the pirates of Algiers, called for the vengeance of the country; and the chastisement which they received from the fleet of Lord Exmouth, will hold a conspicuous station in the annals of our naval achievements.

On the return of the fleet to this country, it was rumoured that some important intelligence had been communicated to the Prince Regent, by Lord Exmouth himself, respecting the conduct of an illustrious female, and which, for the honor of the British crown, required immediate investigation.—That Lord Exmouth, a nobleman of the most upright and honorable prin-

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ciples, and possessing at the same time, with all its virtues, the noble character of a British sailor, should so sully that character as to become a spy upon the actions of his future Queen, and secretly and clandestinely to report the issue of his researches into her conduct, cannot for a moment gain belief in the minds of those who have the slightest knowledge of the intrinsically honorable character of Lord Exmouth. But his fleet had visited the scenes of her temporary residence on the African coast, and many individuals had joined his fleet in the Mediterranean, who were acquainted with the tenor of her life on the southern shores of Europe. As, in the most wholesome flock, some individuals may be met with unsound, so, even amongst the crew of a British fleet, it is not improbable some mercenary and unprincipled fellow might be found, who, in the true spirit of malignity, and in order to satisfy the cupidity of his dastard soul, would seize upon the floating rumours of the day, and then hurry with them to that quarter from which he expected a high reward would issue for his meritorious deeds.

The first intelligence which the public received of the tendency of these reports, so highly injurious to the character of the Princess of Wales, and so excruciating to the feelings of the Princess Charlotte, was through the medium of one of the ministerial journals, which, in a pompous tone, announced the immediate publication of some important letters, materially affecting the character of an illustrious female. The tocsin of alarm was sounded in the ears of the friends of her

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Royal Highness, and her accuser was nobly and manfully dared to bring forward his charge. The offence charged to her Royal Highness was of no trifling import,—it was an adulterous intercourse with a foreigner; and sufficient evidence, it was said, would be adduced, on which to found an immediate application for a divorce. A very able letter appeared at this juncture, addressed to Lord Eldon, whom the writer considers as principally interested in the future discussion of this question, from the high office he holds under the crown, and the responsibility naturally attached to him for the propriety of the proposal and its ultimate success. The question itself was of the most vital importance, and it was examined in its most remote and proximate bearings; it was considered in the two only modes, in which it appears it could be brought before the public; for however congenial a proceeding by bill of attainder might be, it would not be tolerated in the present age. The first inquiry was, whether his Royal Highness and the Princess were to be considered as private persons, and whether the measure itself could be brought forward before the ecclesiastical court; but a doubt here presented itself, whether the ecclesiastical court had any jurisdiction. If it had, then the Princess must necessarily be entitled to the ordinary defence employed in that court, viz., recrimination. It must, however, be considered as verging upon a moral impossibility, that Lord Eldon could advise the Prince to commence a suit, in which a defence of such a nature might be employed; well knowing what the unpleasant disclo-

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sures might be. As, therefore, this mode of process could not be adopted, it was supposed that the measure would be brought forward on the statute of Treasons, the 25th of Edward III., which declares, that, "if a man defile the companion of the king's eldest son and heir, he shall be deemed guilty of high treason." As, however, the offence was charged as having been committed in a foreign country, and by an alien, who, consequently, never owed any allegiance to the King, how could the offender be said to have violated his allegiance, never having owed any; and, of course, he having thus committed no crime, how could the Princess be considered as partaker of that crime? Besides, in the statute above quoted, the wife of the king's eldest son is described as his "companion;" but the Princess, it was well known, was separated from his Royal Highness by articles, which undoubtedly were ratified by Parliament, in their voting her a separate establishment. Certainly the Princess, under such circumstances, and especially residing out of the realm, with the consent, and by special licence of his Royal Highness, could not with any propriety nor truth be called his companion. Lord Eldon, by advising his Royal Highness to permit the Princess to reside abroad, deprived her of that salutary safeguard, by which the severity of the above statute is mitigated. Would his Lordship act in such a manner with any ward of Chancery? If not, why then be less attentive to the Princess? and why deprive her of the protection to which she is legally entitled by the wise provisions of Parliament?

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The exclusion of her Royal Highness from the Queen's drawing-room, necessarily disgraced her, and led her to be viewed as an outcast from society; and therefore, her wish to quit a country where she had experienced such severe treatment was by no means astonishing; and her Royal Highness reasonably considered, that her abode any longer in this country, would eventually injure her beloved daughter. Should it not have been the aim of an individual, holding so exalted a station as Lord Eldon, to provide for the union and harmony of the Royal Family, and to avoid endangering either by an advice, which, agreeable as it might be to one particular branch of the Royal Family, yet could not fail in the end of exciting dissension amongst its members? Why did he, therefore, give his advice to the Queen, to exclude the Princess of Wales from the Drawing-Room, and, at the same time, to receive the Duchess of Cumberland? Although that advice was not acted upon, for reasons which have never been satisfactorily explained, the consequences of it are still apparent, in regard to its influence on the concord and harmony of the Royal Family.

The proposed divorce, as considered in connexion with the situation of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, being the presumptive heiress to the throne, possesses an interest of a very important nature. Her succession to the throne of England, would be the disjunction of Hanover from the British dominions, which, as a male fief, would descend to the Duke of York; and this alone, in the eyes of many enlightened

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politicians, would prove of no trifling importance to the country. It was indeed strongly urged by several very able and profound writers, at that time, that this alone was a sufficient reason for not pressing a divorce, without in the least taking into consideration the personal views of the illustrious parties.

Whatever malignity could devise or malice execute was put in force by some despicable myrmidons, to bring home the guilt with which she was charged to the Princess of Wales; but the popular indignation again burst forth, and stifled the base calumny of her accusers.

But still the feelings of the Princess Charlotte were deeply lacerated at the base insinuations of guilt, which were expressed against her mother; and which appeared to spring more from a desire to widen the breach between her illustrious parents, than from a conviction of actual guilt. With this important business was connected the visit, already mentioned, of an illustrious individual to Camelford-House; and the side which the latter had uniformly espoused, on all occasions in which the character or the interests of the Princess of Wales were concerned, is too generally known, not to admit of the supposition,—that from the highly irritated state of the feelings of the Princess Charlotte, arising from a just and well founded indignation at the base attempts to traduce the character of her mother, some unguarded expressions might have escaped her Royal Highness, which could not have any other tendency than to increase

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the mutual irritation, and lay the foundation to that restricted intercourse, which was afterwards so apparent to the nation.

To depict a human being as faultless, is to exhibit a "monster which the world ne'er saw;" and to those who, have studied the human character, the position will not appear erroneous, that in proportion to the strength of the virtues which an individual displays, so will be the strength of his vices. It would be folly to pronounce the character of the Princess Charlotte perfect, taking as a criterion the utmost degree of human excellence; but truth, which should ever attend upon the historian, exacts the confession, that amongst the frailties of the Princess Charlotte, (and where is the human being without them?) a sudden ebullition of temper might be included. But even this frailty leaned to the side of virtue,—and, in many respects, might be considered as a negative excellence.

The persecution of the innocent,—the oppression of the poor,—the degradation of suffering merit,—and the calumnies which malice uttered against a defenceless individual, in a moment roused the generous feelings of her nature; and that which some would take for violence of passion should have been construed into an indignant hatred of every species of moral turpitude, shewing itself in the fullest flow of its effects. The principles of the Princess Charlotte were not founded upon the common estimate of human actions, but she had affixed to herself a standard of right and wrong, which was the result of deep and careful inves-

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tigation, and which, disdaining the superficies of things, looked only to those deep recesses in which lies concealed the intricate machinery of the human heart. She was well aware of the most important lesson of life, which is the government of our passions; and it was the study, (though a hard one,) of her riper days, to act under its influence.

Oh! that the votary of dissipation, the scoffer at religion, the senseless atheist, or the proud unfeeling misanthrope, could, from the lips of this now sainted being, have heard the breathings of that Christian love which threw so bright a splendor over her earthly existence; and, in the hour when reflection forces itself upon them, or in that dread moment when the dreadful gulf between this world and an eternal hereafter stands yawning before them, let them survey the life of this illustrious Princess; and in the perusal of the following passage, written by herself, on an occasion in which she considered that she had unnecessarily shewn a warm ebullition of temper, may they profit by the admonition which it contains; and may it lead them to the expectation of that happiness, which is ever the result of a virtuous life.

* * * * "'Resist beginnings' is a "maxim, which, if duly observed and attended to, "will prove of the greatest emolument and advantage "to us through life; nor can we be too careful in avoiding any the least inconsistency with the dictates of "virtue in our earlier years."

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" Plato was right, when he said, that *nosce te ipsum* " was the foundation of all human knowledge; and yet " how few appear the least solicitous to acquire so great " and necessary a lesson, notwithstanding they are sure " that the neglecting of it must one day, on a retrospect " of their past life, be productive of distress, which no " pen can sufficiently describe. The last and inevitable " hour, is, however, unperceived, making incessant " advances; and what, at that awful period, will be " able to afford us the least satisfaction? The failings " of thoughtless youth, and the more premeditated " faults of advanced age, will then stare us in the face, " and the best of our worldly employments appear but " as specious sins—the blandishments of sense. We " shall despise the splendor of a dying chamber, and " the concern of our friends will rather retard than " promote a repentance; we may intend to defer it till " that important season, when all sublunary enjoyments " will only tend to increase the poignancy of our appre- " hensions. But is there no path we may tread, during " the sportive days of blooming youth, that will enable " us to bear with fortitude every evil we may be exposed " to in our journey through life—support us with com- " posure under the separating stroke, and fit us for an " acquittal at the grand tribunal hereafter? Doubtless, " there is.—Follow the dictates of reason and religion, " which forcibly command us to keep our passions in " subjection; and practise, without ostentation, the " great virtues of piety, benevolence, and justice. If " we perform these duties, we shall soon experience a " serenity of mind, which vice can never give; it will be

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"a satisfaction unalloyed by remorse, and will qualify "us to bear every affliction with a cheerful resignation, "and prove an unerring road to everlasting happiness."

* * * * * *

On several occasions, the Princess Charlotte gave way to melancholy forebodings, and she seemed rather to prepare herself for death, than for a lengthened life. "It is true," said her Royal Highness often, "that I am born to a crown; but there is a crown which I covet more than an earthly one, and that is only to be found in Heaven—grant that it may one day be mine."

A few days previously to the departure of the Princess Charlotte for the tranquil scenes of Claremont, her Royal Highness had a small select party, in which the conversation turned on the relative difference between the active and passive virtues of the female character. Her Royal Highness strenuously contended, that the greater share of merit must be awarded to the exercise of the former, as it required a greater self-command to resist evil, than to be actively good. "The character of a truly estimable woman," said her Royal Highness, "is not so difficult of attainment as many are led to imagine. The grand secret of pleasing consists in blending the qualities which are universally agreeable with the reigning manners of a particular age. A woman of fashion, of the present day, may be said to be truly estimable; who, deriving from the world all the charms of society, that is to say, taste,

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elegance, and spirit, knows how at the same time to preserve her heart and her mind free from that empty vanity, that false sensibility, that inordinate self-love, and those endless affectations, which are so frequent in polished life; who subjected, in spite of herself, to form and ceremony, never loses sight of nature, and returns to it sometimes to honor it, at least, with her sighs; who, though carried along by the giddy whirl of dissipation and amusement, feels still the necessity of reposing herself from time to time on the bosom of friendship."

At this moment a lady was announced, who had been particularly instrumental in the formation of the Princess Charlotte's mind, and her Royal Highness immediately rose to receive her.—"You come rather *mal-apropos*, my dear Lady E.," said her Royal Highness, "for I was just sketching your likeness."

"That is an honor indeed," said Lady E.; "but allow me to ask your Royal Highness—was it my mental, or my corporeal likeness, on which you were engaged?" "As to the latter," answered her Royal Highness, "it is in the power of every one who can draw lines with a pencil; but the former requires a great degree of skill, of a different nature, and therefore I fear that I have failed; but be assured, my dear Lady E., that as to the shades in your character, I have so softened them, that they are scarcely perceptible; at all events, they are so minutely blended, that they form a pleasing contrast to the brighter parts.—I will finish your likeness at some future period."

The remainder of the evening was occupied in

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music. And thus did this amiable Princess, in the circle of a few congenial minds, dedicate those hours to the enjoyment of rational delights, which others spend in the inane and frivolous pursuits of a fashionable life.

Preparations had been for some time making for the departure of the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold for Claremont. Every day military waggons conveying goods, &c., were despatched from Camelford House to Claremont-House, and the more valuable articles were conveyed in caravans and breaks. On the 24th, a stage-coach, specially engaged for the purpose, started with the domestics, inside and outside, with their luggage, from Camelford-House. Soon after, Sir Robert Gardiner and the other attendants followed in carriages. The Princess and Prince left about half-past three o'clock, in a travelling carriage, to proceed to Claremont to dinner. The whole of the royal establishment removed from Camelford-House, not to return any more; that house being extremely inconvenient for the purpose, and, indeed, not large enough for half of the establishment, scarcely for more than one third, which added enormously to the expenses. The Princess Charlotte being a rigid economist, this alone was no trifling objection to continuing any part of the royal establishment at Camelford-House; especially, as before the ensuing winter, it was expected that a more suitable residence would be found for their Royal and Serene Highnesses. The idea of occupying Kensington-Palace had been wholly relinquished, as some objections of an insuperable nature appeared;

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which, in the first instance, did not present themselves. In fact, there is no house in London that presents itself, that is so well calculated for a royal residence in every point of view, combining splendor with convenience, as Cumberland-House in Pall-Mall, which was at that time occupied by the clerks of the board of ordnance. It was, therefore, determined that the business of that department of the state should be removed to the new building intended for the transport-office, and that Cumberland-House should be fitted up as the residence of these illustrious personages.

A new era now opened upon the life of the Princess Charlotte—short, but glorious. Her course was like the sun, through an unclouded atmosphere, gradually sinking towards the west, in floods of mellowed light; and leaving to us the reflection of his beams, even when we see him not. She is set—and we see her no more! But her memory lives amongst us, bright and unfading!—it is a beacon to us on the road of religion and virtue, and which will eventually bring us to that Heaven where her now sainted spirit dwells in bliss.

From the empty and tiresome ceremonies attendant upon royalty, her Royal Highness was now to be removed to the pure and exhilarating scenes of the country—no longer wasting her hours at feasts, at balls, at assemblies, at routs, and all the other motley meetings of fashionable life, she was now to enjoy the pleasing occupations of agriculture, gardening, riding, fishing, reading, contemplation, and all the rational pursuits which distinguish a country life. The coun-

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try is a realization of romance and fairy land to individuals of so contemplative a disposition as the Princess Charlotte's. Innocence and virtue were born, educated, and nursed in the country; they may indeed, perchance, be found in the city and the town, but they dwindle away like the exotic, transplanted from its native earth to a ruder clime. In the country, the heart is particularly attuned to devotion; and every plant, every herb, every flower, every insect, proclaims its Creator's wisdom and goodness. All the "cloud-capt towers, the gorgeous palaces, the solemn temples," cannot give a rational being so pure a delight as the contemplation of nature's inferior works. He sees, wonders, and discovers new beauties at every step that he advances; he penetrates into the arcana of nature, and plainly perceives new charms, which to others appear only confused and trivial. A mind must, however, be particularly constituted to relish the beauties of a country life; and that the mind of the Princess Charlotte was of that fortunate stamp, all the actions of the last year of her life sufficiently demonstrate. Standing on one of the eminences in the park of Claremont, her eyes appeared to range with delight over the varied scene, and with enthusiastic rapture she would exclaim, "O Lord! how glorious are thy works! thy thoughts are very deep!"—When the eye of the day, as some of the Americans emphatically call the sun, sheds its warming, comforting, prolific influence on all sides, making nature's blood to circulate; when the eye takes in earth, seas, skies, beautifully diversified; and the intellectual eye, opening on the glorious

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scene darts into invisible worlds, loses sight of, as it were, the incumbrances of the flesh, and anticipates the joys of an eternal paradise—who can express; who can have any idea of those refined, those extatic pleasures!—

"Then, not a breeze
Flies o'er the meadows; not a cloud imbibes
The setting sun's effulgence; not a strain
From all the tenants of the warbling shade
Ascends; but whence her bosom can partake
Fresh pleasures, unreprov'd: nor thence partakes
Fresh pleasure only, for th' attentive mind,
By this harmonious action on her powers,
Becomes herself harmonious. Wont so long
On outward things to meditate, the charm
Of sacred order, soon she seeks at home.—
To find a kindred order, to exert
Within herself the elegance of love,
This fair inspired delight, her temper'd powers,
Refine at length, and every passion wears
A chaster, milder, more attractive, mien."

The reception which the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold met with, from the inhabitants in the vicinity of Claremont, must have been highly gratifying to their feelings. Crowds had been waiting during the whole of the day, on the road leading to Claremont; and the carriage containing their Royal and Serene Highnesses no sooner came in view, than the bells at Esher struck up a joyous peal, and the air rang with the acclamations of the people. As her Royal Highness ascended the steps of Claremont-House, she turned, and casting her eyes over the beautiful scenery before her, she exclaimed, "Well, thank Heaven, I am

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here at last;" this is a better prospect than that from Camelford-House. The Princess Charlotte immediately repaired to the dining-room, which is situate on the same floor as the entrance hall; the latter is lofty and spacious, and leads to the grand staircase; it contains an elegant billiard-table, with a beautiful Egyptian lamp suspended from the ceiling. The three principal rooms, the drawing-room, the library, and dining-room, are all on the same floor. The drawing-room fronts the grand entrance. The dining-room is a fine square room, situate between the drawing-room and the library, and capable of dining fifty people. The library is a most magnificent room, fronting the pleasure-ground, and extending nearly the whole length of the house; it is ornamented with paintings and busts of all the illustrious and celebrated men of the last and present century. Contiguous to the library is the bed-chamber, in which her Royal Highness breathed her last; it forms the angle of the back part of the house, looking directly to the mount on which the tower is built; the two windows of this apartment, at the back front of the house, are sham ones. From the library, the view towards the ground is picturesque in the highest degree. A sheet of water, on which swans and other aquatic fowls are seen in great numbers, spreads itself at the bottom of the lawn; and on the margin of the lake is built a beautiful cottage, which fronts the house, and the architecture of which, partaking of the gothic, forms a most charming *point d'appui* for the eye. This cottage was originally appropriated to a band of

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music, the effect of which must have been enchanting; it is now converted into a dwelling-house for one of the domestics, but owing to its unwholesomeness, arising from its damp situation, it is intended to alter its destination.

One of the first arrangements, which her Royal Highness made immediately after her arrival at Claremont, was the obtaining of a pew in the church of Esher, that her regular attendance on public devotion might not be interrupted. During the residence of the Duke of Newcastle at Claremont, a very handsome pew had been erected by him, the entrance to which was perfectly private, and which being immediately fronting the pulpit, was in every respect well calculated for the accommodation of the royal pair. This pew had been, however, subsequently divided, and one part was occupied by the family of Mr. Ellis, the proprietor of Claremont; and the other by a Mr. Spicer, a respectable gentleman, living in the immediate vicinity of Esher. An objection was, however, raised to the occupation of the moiety of this pew by the Princess Charlotte, upon the ridiculous plea, that it was derogatory to the dignity of royalty, that the members of it should sit upon a level with a stockbroker; the business carried on by Mr. Spicer. That this objection was made *for* the Princess Charlotte, and not *by* her, must be evident to every one who is in the slightest degree conversant with the character of her Royal Highness; and it is in my power to deny, in the most positive terms, that any such objection was made by the Princess

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Charlotte herself. It was, however, supposed, from the objection which had been started, that Mr. Spicer would have been induced to relinquish his claim upon that part of the pew which he occupied, and leave it to the entire occupation of the Princess Charlotte. Some reasons, however, of a very private nature, operated against this relinquishment on the part of Mr. Spicer; but with a most laudable attention to that delicacy which was due to her Royal Highness, the family of Mr. Spicer made it an invariable rule never to attend divine service in the afternoon; and as the Princess Charlotte never attended in the morning, no unpleasant effect whatever could have been produced upon her feelings; even if they had been so nice and fastidious, as they were represented to be, on account of the proximity of a plebeian family.

The mind of the Princess Charlotte soared above the trifling punctilios of life, and especially above trivial circumstances in which her religious duties were concerned. Before the eyes of her Maker, she knew there was no distinction of persons, and that the prayers of the princess and of the peasant would equally find their way to the throne of mercy. Distinction of persons, she knew full well, possesses no weight with God; nor would her prayers be less acceptable, because they were offered up in the congregation of the humble. Arrangements were therefore immediately set on foot, for fitting up one part of the pew; a fire-place was constructed; the floor was covered with green baize; and it was, in all respects, rendered comfortable for the occasional devotions of her Royal

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Highness. Two arm-chairs * were brought from Claremont; and in the plain guise of an inferior, did this amiable Princess frequently perform her devotional exercises of the sabbath-day. . . .

There is something perfectly original in the description I received from an inhabitant of Esher, of the first visit which her Royal Highness made to Esher church. "Sir," said he, "the crowd was so great, and the ladies were dressed so fine, you would have thought they were going to a ball, rather than to hear a sermon; and I have now lived thirty years in the parish, and I never *see'd* such a sight before. But, Sir, you should have seen our church—why, it was for all the world like a tulip bed; it was nothing but a moving scene of feathers and flowers, and such like things; and I am sure our parson can say, he never was so little looked upon as on that Sunday. I am sure he could not say, This is all for I;—nor could the man who turns our organ say, This is to hear my music. Dear o'me, Sir, it was a sight our church will never see again."

"And pray, my good fellow," I asked, "were not you one of the number who forgot the purport of

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* In one of my late visits to Claremont and its vicinity, I experienced the melancholy pleasure of sitting in the chair which her Royal Highness was accustomed to occupy; and, notwithstanding all that stoics may say, I felt a greater relief from the tear which then flowed down my cheek, than from all the doctrines of their austere creed, which inculcates the suppression of the nobler feelings of our nature, and would close the source of the sweetest joys which we can possibly experience.

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your visit to the church; and did not you direct your eyes to the pew, where her Royal Highness sat?"

"Why for sartain I did, Sir; but I could not help looking, where every body else looked. But, Sir, had you but seen the kind and easy manner in which that dear, sweet creature, who is now gone, nodded to us all—and to me too, Sir—Oh! you would have never forgotten it all your life!"

"And her Royal Highness nodded to you?" I asked.

"Indeed did she," he answered; "and I remember the very dress which she had on her head; she had a plain straw bonnet, like those which our ladies in the town wear. She had something of a shawl thrown over her shoulders; her gown was white, as white as snow, Sir; and she went tripping along,—Oh! it did my heart good to see her.—And, Sir, there was our good Prince, he enjoyed the scene with all his heart; but he sometimes smiled;—and what do you think I thought he smiled at, Sir?"

"I cannot tell, indeed," I answered.

"I do think, Sir, it was at the awkward manner in which we made our bows; so different from what he has been accustomed to."

"But they were the congratulations of the heart, I'll venture for it," said I.

"Indeed they were."—

"Then if he did smile," I answered, "It was the smile of inward satisfaction, not of contempt of your hearty greetings."

"I am sure it was, as you say, Sir,—and God bless him."

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Politeness is not a solitary luminary, it is a constellation of many virtues; all that is amiable in humanity is comprehended under that title; it rests its foundation upon religion, and it has morality for its support. Omnipotent where it is genuine, it attracts a whole host of admirers, and, like the Orphean harp of old, produces a harmony which softens the most obdurate temper.

It is not every one who can join a good judgment to a good disposition, and yet politeness seems to require both. Of all the social excellencies, it is by far the most comprehensive; it wears the most elegant appearance; and though it be a disgrace to be without it ourselves, it is with pleasure we behold it in others. Politeness is founded on a sense of propriety both in thought and action, and we have a right to the title of good breeding, only when our conduct in both is conformable to it. It is not confined within the narrow circle of courts and drawing-rooms, it exists amidst scenes of the rudest simplicity; and a peasant of Esher can display it as well as a prince of the empire.

At the period when her Royal Highness fixed her abode at Claremont, the gardens and grounds were in a very ruinous and disordered condition; the former proprietor, owing to his not being a permanent resident at Claremont, paid little or no attention to their cultivation or decoration;

> And many a flower was born to blush unseen,
> And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

Some of the gardens presented rather a wilderness

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than a cultivated spot; and the thistle and the nettle flourished as a shelter to the toad or the newt. By degrees this wilderness assumed a new aspect; and an excellent opportunity was thus given to the Princess Charlotte of exercising the benevolent disposition of her nature, by employing a number of indigent labourers, who had been for a long time out of work, and whose families thereby became a heavy burden upon the parish. A certain number of them were immediately employed in the grounds and gardens; and thus, whilst her Royal Highness was adding to the beauty of her residence, she was providing for the exigencies of the poor.

A few days after the arrival of her Royal Highness at Claremont, an application was made to her on behalf of an individual, who, although holding one situation, considered himself competent to fill another, without relinquishing the duties of the former. The Princess, at first, appeared to pay no attention to the application; but, on its being renewed, she marked a particular passage in a book *, and desired that it might be given to the applicant to read. The passage was as follows:—

"To the late Queene of famous memorie (Queen Elizabeth), a courtier who had great place about her Majestie, made suite for an office belonging to the law. Shee told him he was unfit for the place. He confest as much, but promised to finde out a sufficient

* I am informed that this book was Scot's *Philomythie* or Philomythologie, 1616.

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deputy. 'Do,' saith she, 'and then I may bestow upon one of my ladies, for they, by deputation, may execute the office of chancellor, chief justice, and others, as well as you.' This answered him, and I would it would answer all others, that fit men might be placed in every office, and none, how great soever, suffered to keep two. They should take offices for the commonwealth's benefit, but they take them like farme to enrich themselves. This discourageth all professions, both in the church and commonwealth; one place is fit for one man."

With the change of situation, the character of the Princess Charlotte appeared to develop itself in a most extraordinary degree. The genius and intellectual ability which she had previously exhibited, appeared to expand in the most luxuriant manner; and the extent of her knowledge, which comprehended all that could adorn the human mind, was now brought forth to view, and reduced within the rules of the common practice of human concerns. She appeared to be thoroughly acquainted with the extent and boundary of her duties, and she always shewed an unwillingness to transgress them, even if that transgression leaned to the side of virtue. In many cases, her knowledge of things appeared to be intuitive, and the deductions which she made were construed as the result of deep mathematical reason; but she possessed a singular capacity for viewing an object at one glance in its most abstract relation, and the conclusion which she thence drew, was seldom known to be at variance with the actual truth. To preserve the mind

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in its simplicity and abhorrence of vice, Providence has kindly indulged those tempers, which are impregnated with strong passions (and that the temper of the Princess Charlotte was impregnated with strong passions is not to be questioned,) with a proportionable share of quick and lively imagination, the pleasures of which, if rightly directed, will be an inexhaustible fund of innocent and rational amusement. The imitative arts more particularly afford this advantage; but it may be affirmed with truth, that there are none which are useful to society that do not partake, more or less, of the same. The Princess Charlotte lost no opportunity in applying her reason to the culture of her understanding; and it is the neglect of that application which is the source of the greater part of our calamities and misery; for, as an Italian sage has observed; "the mind of man is a hungry thing, and will, if it cannot be fed with good and wholesome food, prey upon garbage; and what is worse, acquire such a relish for the latter, as will, in time, poison its very temper and essence."

It was observed with no common feelings of satisfaction, that the health of the Princess Charlotte daily improved at Claremont; and certainly the change in her mode of life could not but be conducive to the re-establishment of her health. The open, salubrious air of Claremont proved a grateful contrast to the smoky atmosphere of the metropolis; and the emancipation from all

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restraint and freedom of action, which her Royal Highness enjoyed at Claremont, gave an hilarity to her spirits, which was seldom apparent during her residence in town. When the weather was fine, she passed very little of her time within the house, but was either superintending the workmen in the gardens or the grounds, or attending Prince Leopold in his shooting excursions in the park. On the latter occasions, whenever his Serene Highness missed his aim, it was sure to excite the laughter of the Princess Charlotte, who sometimes jocosely declared that she could shoot as well herself.

The first visit which her Royal Highness received from her royal Father was on the 17th of September, when he rode from the stud-house at Hampton-Court to Claremont, on horseback.—Their Royal Highnesses spent above three hours in walking over the park and grounds together; and the Prince Regent was highly gratified in witnessing the happiness and comfort of his royal daughter, who afterwards accompanied Prince Leopold to the stud-house.

The banner, helmet, &c., of his Serene Highness Prince Leopold, knight companion of the order of the Garter, were in the course of this month placed, by a deputation from the college of heralds, in St. George's chapel, Windsor, on the Sovereign's side, between those of the King of the Netherlands, and the Duke of Northumberland, in the room of the helmet, &c., of the late Earl of Chesterfield.

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The art of gardening has been an infinite source of study and entertainment to all civilized nations from the remotest ages, to the present period; and, perhaps, in no art has taste undergone greater variations than in this. To the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, the garden was a constant and never-failing object of amusement; and, through the recommendation of Sir Joseph Banks, a Mr. Fairbairn, a native of Scotland, and a very skilful botanist, was appointed to the management of Claremont gardens. The grounds of this now celebrated spot have been long an object of admiration, on account of their picturesque scenery, and the taste which has been displayed in their interior arrangement. The lawns, which are so beautifully interspersed amongst the pleasure grounds, were the favorite resorts of the Princess Charlotte; and the improvements which her taste suggested, and which were rapidly carrying into execution, would, in time, have rendered it a perfect fairy scene. Nothing, certainly, can be more beautiful than a lawn in full verdure, with all its soft and gentle undulations; but it is that kind of beauty which may be compared to the effect of a piece of music, excellent merely for its melody; and which, unless enlivened by aptly disposed discords, sudden turns, and unexpected variations, would by repetition, become dull and monotonous. Mere beauty, unvaried and uncontrasted, must always degenerate into insipidity; and, consequently, to interest the attention and

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animate the feelings, there is need of something which deviates from that smoothness and gradual variation which constitute uniform beauty.

These were the principles of the picturesque, on which model the Princess Charlotte determined to renovate, if the term may be allowed, the grounds of Claremont; but in all her improvements she adhered closely to nature, and discarded the formal rules of art, which have too long held dominion over the minds of those who have been conversant with similar occupations.

It is a pleasing task to trace the operations of the human mind, and to compare the extent of present powers with that which displayed itself at an earlier period. A true index to an individual character is difficult to be attained; but at times, some slight openings will present themselves, which, like the breaks in the foliage of a tree, give us a glimpse of the distant prospect. The following passages, which were written by her Royal Highness, shortly after her retiring to Claremont, will shew the bias of her mind, and the nature of the subjects with which it was generally occupied.

* * * * * *

"Biassed by old prejudices, transmitted to us "by our great grandfathers, study is looked upon "as criminal in young ladies. Consult the gene- "rality of good women, and they will tell you,

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" that a virtuous daughter should only learn how " to govern a house, and superintend her servants; " and every thing that does not appertain to " housewifery is both useless and dangerous. I " own I am not for excluding these qualifications; " on the contrary, I deem them very essential.— " But is it not necessary for a woman to understand " history, which will tell her who is the founder of " the English monarchy, and acquaint her with the " revolutions of that kingdom; the interests of the " different empires and states; and that such a " climate is fit for such a commodity, and such a " one for another? Is it a crime to be able to " judge of the beauty of expression, the elegance " of prose, the sublimity of poetry? In polite " life all these things are of utility; and so far " from disqualifying a lady for the duties of the " house, it will often procure her essential " advantages." * *

The following observations are truly excellent; and leave us room to regret the loss of the illustrious individual, who, if she had in future life adhered to the dictates of her mind, would have formed indeed a patriot queen.

* * * * *

" Such a form of government pre-supposes a " just, wise, and accomplished king, a prince " who knows the good of his subjects, and re- " solves to make it his study, not contenting

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" himself with theoretical speculation, but actual
" practice. Matters being circumstanced as they
" are at present, little grounds present them-
" selves to expect such a situation. Human
" nature smiles at the vanity of such an airy ex-
" pectation, We must, therefore, look out for
" another form—a form which British policy can
" alone supply us with; wherein the pernicious
" effects of a democracy are tempered by an in-
" fusion of monarchcial influence, and the dangers
" which might arise from absolute monarchy, are
" wisely prevented by aristocratcial authority.
" If separated, we may soon perceive their respec-
" tive imperfections; but when blended in the
" English legislature, a pleasing experience has
" evinced, we must here look for the spring of
" political perfection. My favourite poet, Thom-
" son, says:—

" ' Island of bliss, amid the subject seas
" That thunder round thy rocky coasts, set up
" At once the wonder, terror, and delight,
" Of distant nations, whose remotest shores
" Can soon be shaken by thy naval arm;
" Not to be shook thyself, but all assaults
" Baffling, as thy hoar cliffs, the loud sea wave :—
" O Thou! by whose almighty nod the scale
" Of empire rises, or alternate falls,
" Send forth the saving virtues round *this* land
" In bright patrol.——' ".

The Princess Charlotte is very little indebted to those who have undertaken to delineate the

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history of her life, for the total neglect which they have shewn to her, by omitting to take notice of her classical acquirements, which were by no means of a secondary rank, as the following extract will testify :—

* * * "Horace traced the steps "of Virgil in his Carmen Seculare, wherein he "enumerates in one stanza the four attributes of "Apollo :—

"'Augur, et fulgente decorus arcu
"Phœbus, arreptusque novem camœnis,
"Qui salutari levat arte fessos
"Corporis artus.'"

"These words are good, but don't, I think, rise "up to the beauty and force of Virgil's expres- "sion. There is a second instance in the same "ode, wherein Horace imitates another celebrated "passage of Virgil, and falls equally short of it:—

"'Tu regere imperio populos, Romane, memento
"Parcere subjectis et debellare superbos.'
ÆNEID, l. vi. v. 851.

"'Imperet bellante prior gerentem,
"Lenis in hostem.'
HORAT. CARM. SEC.

"It cannot be doubted, upon the comparison, "whether the first of these be not said with "incomparably more dignity and grace than the

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" other; and this must happen to any person, (even " to Horace himself,) that ventures to say the " same thing after Virgil, in a different manner. " Let me add, that the design of Horace, in this " passage, to imitate Virgil, decides the dispute " as to the various reading of *impetret* for imperet, " —for imperet plainly refers to the *imperit* of " Virgil."

* * * * * * * * *

The following imitation of Ossian, is from the pen of the Princess Charlotte, and bears date September 1816.

* * * " Autumn is dark on the mountain, " grey mist rests on the hills. The whirlwind is " heard on the heath; dark rolls the river through " the narrow plain. A tree stands alone on the " hill, and marks the grave of Connal. The " leaves whirl round with the wind, and shew " the grave of the dead. At times here are seen " the ghosts of the deceased, when the musing " hunter stalks slowly over the heath. * *

" Who can reach the source of thy race, O Con- " nal? and who recount thy fathers? Thy family " grew like an oak on the mountain, which meet- " eth the wind with its lofty head. But now it is " torn from the earth—who shall supply the " place of Connal?

" Here was the din of arms, and here were " the groans of the dying. Mournful are the

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" walls of Fingal! O Connal, it was here thou " didst fall! Thine arm was like a storm; thy " sword, a beam of the sky; thy height, a rock " on the plain; thine eyes, a furnace of fire. " Louder than a storm was thy voice; when thou " confoundedst the field, warriors fell by thy " sword, as a thistle by the staff of a boy.

" Dargo, the mighty came on like a cloud of " thunder; his brows were contracted, and dark " his eyes, like two caves in a rock; bright rose " their swords on each side, dire was the clang " of their steel.

" The daughter of Rinval was near. Crimora, " bright in the armour of man, her hair loose " behind, her bow in her hand; she followed the " youth to the war—Connal, her much beloved. " She drew the string on Dargo, but erring, " pierced her Connal. He falls like an oak on " the plain; like a rock from a shaggy hill.— " What shall she do, hopeless maid! He bleeds! " Her Connal dies! All the night long, she cries, " and all the day, O Connal, my love, and my " friend! With grief the sad mourner died.

" Earth here encloseth the loveliest pair on the " hill—the grass grows beneath the stones of " their tombs—I sit in the mournful shade—the " wind sighs through the grass—and their me- " mory rushes on my mind. Undisturbed, you " now sleep together in the tomb of the moun- " tain, you rest alone!"

* * *

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The following poetical Fragment bears the same date:—

" O happy were the days, my early childhood knew,
" When round my father's home first stray'd my vagrant feet;
" Then many were my joys, my days of sorrow few,
" And much I pitied then the wanderer of the street.

" Ere sixteen years had sped their quick and joyous round,
" With virtue as my guide, and a stranger to deceit;
" I left my father's home—my much-lov'd native ground;
" But still I pass'd with scorn, the wanderer of the street.

" 'Twas love which drove me forth, in error's paths to roam,
" With misery and want, in various shapes, to meet;
" Then far from parents, friends, bereft of food and home,
" With aching heart, I then became a wanderer of the street.

* * * *

The above extracts will bear ample testimony to the general bias of the Princess Charlotte's mind; and that it was capable of embracing the most recondite subjects, and of comparing them in all their different relations, by which the truth or falsity of the hypotheses might be minutely ascertained, cannot, it is presumed, admit of any doubt.

Among the many privations which individuals filling the high station of the Princess Charlotte undergo, may be reckoned the almost positive impossibility of enjoying the sweets of confidential friendship. In the bosom of royalty, friendship is a passion which is rarely matured;

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but there is none which can operate upon the mind more powerfully. The Princess Charlotte, considered as a member of royalty, stood, as it were, aloof from the world; her associates were those of convenience and necessity, not of choice; and the exalted station which she occupied, repelled the advances of a congenial heart, from whose sympathy the sweetest consolation could have been afforded in the hour of affliction. That the Princess Charlotte felt the loss of a sincere and sympathizing friend at one important epoch of her life, the following beautiful prayer, which bears an early date, and is supposed to have been written during the latter part of her residence at Cranbourne-Lodge, will bear ample testimony:—

"O thou Almighty Ruler of the Universe, "whose mercy and goodness hath impressed "upon every heart an ardent desire of becoming "worthy of thy favours; to obey thy sacred "precepts hath been my chief study and delight, "since the day on which my infant soul imbibed "the knowledge of thy superior excellence from "the lips of the best of parents; if, therefore, "my endeavours to prove myself worthy of thy "attention have rendered me any ways acceptable "in thy sight, vouchsafe to grant the prayer I "now prefer. Fortune, and my good fame, have "conspired to shower their blessings upon my "head, and have crowned me with the applause "of the virtuous; yet amidst this profusion of

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" bliss, I have to lament the want of some amiable
" female, on whom I may repose my whole trust
" and confidence, and whose gentle bosom may
" partake of those cares, which, notwithstanding
" the extent of thy goodness and mercy, are the
" inseparable companion of a human breast. I
" have searched in vain for one, whose generous
" principles might afford me the gratification of
" my wishes, and have nothing now to rely on
" but thy benevolence."

On the 24th of September, their Royal and Serene Highnesses were gratified by a visit from the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, who remained a few days at Claremont; and the happiness of the Princess Charlotte was increased by this visit, as it was not one of mere etiquette, but was the result of that friendly intimacy which had long subsisted between the royal relatives. The weather, however, during their visit, was rather inauspicious, and prevented them from enjoying the beautiful scenery of the grounds of Claremont to their full advantage; but the royal party possessed those resources within themselves, that the attendant imp of a fashionable life, Ennui, never intruded himself into their presence; but the hours of those days on which they were confined tothe house by the weather, were spent in the library; and the evenings were devoted to music, or passed away in that rational conversation, which could

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not but result from minds, tempered and constituted like theirs.

From the very beginning of her residence at Claremont, her Royal Highness appeared in a great degree to divest herself of the exterior character of the princess, and to assume that of the private lady. In her dress, it seemed to be her study to exclude all useless ornament; a diamond was never seen upon her, except on occasions when courtly etiquette required it; and a simple straw bonnet tied under the chin, a plain velvet pelisse, and an English muslin gown, were the usual attire of the heiress presumptive to the British throne.

The improvement of the grounds of Claremont became one of the chief occupations of the Princess Charlotte; and when an addition was made to the park, by taking in a part of Esher common, her Royal Highness had a narrow gravel road made completely round the park, which was just broad enough to admit the wheels of a little poney cart, in which it was her daily practice to ride. The cart was originally drawn by one of her beautiful grey poneys, but as the little animal would not stand fire, and as the Princess Charlotte always attended Prince Leopold in his shooting excursions, a brown poney was substituted for it, and whenever the weather permitted, the little cart was always at the door between twelve and one; and with a single servant in attendance, her

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Royal Highness spent her mornings in visiting the different works which she had commenced; and she would stop at the doors of the cottagers who reside in the park, and converse with them with the greatest affability and condescension.

In a most shady and retired part of the grounds, from which one of the most beautiful prospects which imagination can conceive presents itself to the eye, stood formerly a semicircular building, in which it was customary for the Princess Charlotte to have a slight repast spread out in the middle of the day, and whither she regularly repaired to enjoy the captivating scene which extended itself before her. The poet here might exclaim :—

O thou! who to this wild retreat,
Shall lead, by chance, thy pilgrim feet;
To trace the dark wood, waving o'er
The rocky dell, and daisied floor.
If here thou bring a gentle mind,
That shuns by fits, yet loves mankind;
That leaves the schools, and in the wood,
Learns the best science to be good;
Then soft, as on the dews below
Yon oaks their silent umbrage throw,
Peace to thy pray'rs, by virtue taught,
Pilgrim, shall bless thy hallowed thought.

The Princess Charlotte took a particular fancy to this enchanting spot, and she resolved to erect a gothic temple on the site. A design for this purpose was prepared by Mr. Hyat, and meeting

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with the approbation of her Royal Highness, the construction of the edifice was immediately commenced; and when completed, it will present one of the most interesting objects to a reflecting mind*, associated, as it must be, with the remembrance of that much lamented and illustrious individual, to whose taste it owes its origin, and by whose spirit it will be visited in the stillness of the evening hour, to whisper comfort and consolation to the afflicted mourner, who is now alone upon the earth.

One of the principal objects of the attention of her Royal Highness, and which engrossed a considerable portion of her time during her morning rides, was the comfort of the cottagers who reside in the park, and the majority of whom are employed in various occupations on the estate. On being informed that some of the cottages were out of repair, her Royal Highness did not wait for any report being made to her of the extent of their dilapidated state; but she visited them herself, and in one instance, where the repairs appeared to be of an urgent nature, and her Royal Highness was informed, that the carpenters were then all employed on the hot-houses in the

* A beautiful engraving of this Elysian scene, will be given in the course of these Memoirs, and some additional facts connected with the plan of its intended completion have been received, which at this time it would be premature to enlarge upon.

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gardens; but that the cottage should be repaired immediately upon the hot-houses being completed; "What!" exclaimed her Royal Highness in an indignant tone; "which is of the greater consequence, the completion of my hot-houses, or the repair of this cottage? The health of the inhabitants is suffering from exposure to the weather; and the cottage is not to be repaired till the hot-houses are done! I desire I may see the workmen here to-morrow, and let the repair be complete."—On the following day, the first object to which the Princess Charlotte drove was to this cottage, and she found the workmen busily employed. On perceiving that the roof was taken off, her Royal Highness inquired, how long it would take to replace it; and, on being answered about two days, she inquired, what the inhabitants were to do in the mean time; and on being informed, that a temporary roof would be laid on, "That will not do," said her Royal Highness, "I am well aware what temporary roofs are. Is there no other cottage vacant in the park, which these poor people can occupy? On being answered in the affirmative, and information being given to her Royal Highness of its situation, she immediately drove thither; and finding it tenantable, she desired the family to remove into it, until their own cottage was repaired.

Such generous sympathy with the feelings of the lower classes could not fail to endear her Royal Highness to all around her; and laid the

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foundation of that overwhelming grief, which her irreparable loss excited.

On the margin of the great lake, which by the natives is characteristically termed the Bottomless Pit, on account of its supposed unfathomable depth, stands a beautiful cottage, inhabited by the aged Mrs. Bewley, on whom report has conferred the honor of having received a Bible from the hands of her Royal Highness; and that she wrote in it "The gift of the Princess Charlotte." For the truth of the latter part of this statement, there is not the least foundation. It is true, that the Bible was given to her by the Princess Charlotte; and, to enhance the value of it, her Royal Highness, in the most condescending manner, carried the book herself from Claremont-house to the cottage, which is nearly a mile distant, and delivered it to the old woman with her own hands. The inscription in the Bible, acknowledging it to be the gift of the Princess Charlotte, was written by a son-in-law of Mrs. Bewley's. The old woman has also a Prayer-Book, which was given to her by Prince Leopold, and which was brought to the cottage by himself, in company with the Princess Charlotte, in one of their evening walks.

The cottage in which Mrs. Bewley resided, was considered by the Princess Charlotte as not only a very inconvenient abode for the old woman, but, in its rough and dilapidated state, to stand as a disgrace to the beautiful scenery which surrounds it. Her Royal Highness ordered that

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two rooms should be added to the cottage, and her own taste furnished the design for a new front. This cottage now forms one of the most pleasing objects in the beautiful grounds of Claremont; and is another instance of the high state of decorative beauty to which that demesne would have attained, had not the commanding and inventive spirit, whose exquisite taste planned the improvement, been so prematurely snatched away.

At the latter end of September, Claremont was enlivened by the visit of several members of the Royal Family, amongst whom at one time were the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, the Duchess of York, and the Duke of Cambridge. On one occasion there was a grand concert in the evening; her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte presided at the piano-forte with great judgment and effect.

On the morning after the arrival of the royal party, breakfast was served up in the garden-house; and after partaking of this rural repast, they took a ride in open carriages round the park and plantations, and returned in the evening to dinner.

Claremont may be considered, without exception, one of the pleasantest seats in England. The great diversity of rural scenery, combined with the grand and extensive views from almost all parts of the pleasure grounds, renders it truly an enchanting scene. Her Royal Highness passed

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regularly every day four or five hours in perambulating or driving about the grounds; and this regular enjoyment of exercise contributed in a very essential degree to the re-establishment of her health.

Her Royal Highness was always particularly solicitous for the regular occupation of her time; and it may be justly said, that each hour brought with it its appropriate employment. Immediately after breakfast, she first adjusted her epistolary correspondence of the preceding day; and then proceeded either to answer the letters herself, or to dictate answers to one of her ladies. The Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold each filled their own respective department in the management of their pecuniary concerns; and, to the honor of their Royal and Serene Highnesses it must be recorded, it was their pride to say, that they were out of debt. With a benevolent consideration for the interests of the trades-people of Esher, a regulation was made, at the express desire of the Princess, that their accounts should be liquidated every quarter, and that the same tradesmen should not be employed two successive quarters. By which plan not only emulation was excited, but a more regular and proportionate circulation was given to that large expenditure which must be incurred in the maintenance of a royal establishment, and especially of one on so liberal a scale as that of Claremont.

After the completion of her morning avocations,

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her poney-cart was usually ordered to be brought to the door; and having visited the garden, and marked the growth of her favorite plants, her Royal Highness generally took a circuit of the park, and inspected all the improvements which were carrying into execution. In one of these excursions, she was overtaken by a heavy shower of rain, which obliged her to seek shelter amidst a clump of trees; and this occurrence gave rise to a plan, which her Royal Highness resolved to put in immediate execution, of erecting a small building, which, in cases of bad weather might serve as a place of refuge. The spot fixed upon for this building was between four stately trees, two birches, one oak, and one elm, and is to be seen from the road leading from Esher to the Lodge. The cast-iron perpendicular poles, eight in number, are yet standing; and the rods and bars with which it was to have been constructed, still lie dispersed upon the ground. A contemplative mind might here find full scope for the exercise of its powers; and in the mementos of this virtuous princess, now entombed, behold the transitory happiness of human life. The plans of a comprehensive mind, left in their half-finished state, convey a moral and important lesson to the spectator, as the evanescence of human actions stands apparent before him, and the fragile props on which the life of man depends are seen in all their real weakness.

The first visit which her Royal Highness made from Claremont was to the Duke and Duchess of

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Gloucester at Bagshot Park; but it was not of long duration, for although her Royal Highness felt particular pleasure in the society of her royal relatives, yet her heart seemed to be so deeply interested in her own immediate concerns, and in the objects which she had then in view, relative to the embellishment and improvement of her own beautiful residence, that her happiness seemed to be complete no where, but within its circuit, and in the full enjoyment of those pursuits, which her highly cultivated taste had designed for her.

The enjoyment of her Royal Highness was, however, at this time in some degree interrupted by the information which had been received of the dangerous state of her mother's health, arising from a bilious fever. The Princess of Wales was at this time at Naples, and her malady was supposed to originate from the sudden change of climate and of food, to which she had been exposed.

On the 24th of October, the Queen, and the Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, attended by the Countess of Ilchester, departed from Windsor in a coach and four, escorted by a party of the Royal Horse-Guards, to visit the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, for the first time since their removal into the country. They arrived at Claremont about two o'clock, where they were received by the Prince and Princess with their suites. After the Queen had been conducted over the splendid mansion, and the

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grounds and gardens, the royal party dined with the Prince and Princess. After which they left Claremont and returned to Windsor in the evening.

On the following day, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold drove to town from Claremont, the latter having received an invitation to dine with the Fishmonger's Company, which his Serene Highness, with his customary condescension, most graciously accepted.

A grand meeting of several branches of the Royal Family, at the Pavilion at Brighton, became at this time the general subject of conversation in the circles of fashion; and all who had any pretension to fashionable distinction, and many who had no pretension at all, hurried to Brighton, to be included in the same sphere which was to be irradiated by so many stars of royalty.

The first arrival of any of the members of the Royal Family at the Pavilion, took place on the 3d of December. As early as three o'clock in the afternoon, the 10th Royal Hussars, with the exception of the troop sent up the road to meet the royal cavalcade, were drawn up at the north gate of the palace, faced by the detachment of the 51st Infantry, for the purpose of receiving her Majesty. The assemblage on this occasion was great, including many elegantly dressed individuals, and various of the most respectable families in the town. About twenty minutes

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after four, the Duke of Clarence arrived in his travelling chariot, the trumpets of the military announcing his Royal Highness's approach; and, in less than twenty minutes afterwards, her Majesty's carriage was perceived, under the escort of the military. Her Majesty was accompanied by the Princess Augusta, and the Countess of Macclesfield, the lady in waiting. Ten minutes had scarcely elapsed, before the signal trumpets announced the approach of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent's carriage, who was unaccompanied.

On the 3d of December, the royal party was augmented by the arrival of the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester; and expectation was now upon the tiptoe for the arrival of the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold.

On the 8th, the Princess Elizabeth arrived at the Pavilion, accompanied by the dowager Lady Melville; and, in less than twenty minutes afterwards, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold also reached the palace from Claremont; a second carriage followed, containing their attendants.

At every place, the Princess Charlotte appeared anxious to divest herself of all the forms of etiquette and ceremony; and accordingly, on the following morning, her Royal Highness set out, arm-in-arm with Prince Leopold, on a perambulation through various parts of the town. They were, however, soon recognised, and the crowd that followed them became at last so troublesome,

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that they were compelled to return to the palace. In a short time afterwards, however, they returned to the Steyne, where they promenaded for some time.

The royal party was at this time further augmented by the arrival of the Princess Sophia of Gloucester.

On the 11th, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold again set forward on their pedestrian excursion through several parts of the town; but being again recognised near the market, the populace continued to augment until they increased to a prodigious crowd. The Princess Charlotte, unfortunately, could not avoid feeling alarm at the multitude that was gathered, never having before been so much exposed to such personal inconvenience, although every look and expression from the gratified throng manifested loyalty and affectionate attachment, in consequence of so unexpectedly beholding her Royal and his Serene Highness. Popular feeling operating in an impetuous manner will, however, on such occasions, exhibit itself, and the only circumstance to be regretted is, that the anxiety of many to behold her should have subjected her Royal Highness to the slightest degree of inconvenience. The appearance of Townsend, the police officer, at last cleared the way for the royal pair to return to the Pavilion. In his zeal and anxiety to extricate her Royal Highness from her unpleasant dilemma, Townsend struck several forward boys with his cane, on which Prince

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Leopold, who read aright what was passing in every heart, desired him to desist entirely from such severity of treatment; and the popular exclamations of "God bless you both," "Long live the Princess Charlotte and the Prince of Coburg," increased until the royal pair entered the gates of the palace.

Having reached the Pavilion grounds by the south entrance, the Prince and Princess soon afterwards passed out at the north gate, took a walk beyond Richmond-place, and returned by the Steyne to the palace, after an absence of nearly two hours.

Being aware that the excessive anxiety manifested by the inhabitants of Brighton to behold two such illustrious characters was the usual effect of an unbridled curiosity, and that it would gradually subside, as the novelty of the circumstance decreased, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, even on the day subsequent to that on which they had experienced so much inconvenience from the congratulations of a hearty, generous, but perhaps not very polished community, extended their walk to the northward of the town; but at the same time, they provided, by having a carriage closely following them, that they might be enabled to extricate themselves from any inconvenience which the impetuosity of the crowd might occasion. They shaped their course to the East Cliff and Royal Crescent; where, to avoid the gaze of the multitude which

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was then collecting, they entered their carriage, and arrived at the Pavilion highly pleased with their promenade.

The Princess had not long arrived at the palace, when an eminent dress-maker, residing at Brighton, exhibited to her Royal Highness a beautiful cap, formed of Brussels point lace, and other costly foreign materials. Her Royal Highness appeared much struck with the form and elegance of the article; but at length ordered it to be returned, observing, that had the materials with which it was composed been solely of British manufacture instead of foreign, she would have been the purchaser, as the taste which the *tout ensemble* of the cap displayed excited her admiration. This was a trait truly worthy of a British Princess, and exhibited in the most striking manner, that every pulse of her heart beat in unison with the true interests of the nation.

When the task of the impartial historian is duly considered and examined in all its bearings, it must be confessed, that difficulties of a very delicate nature attend him, immediately that he enters upon the delineation of the private actions of a distinguished individual, which imposes upon him the ungrateful task of bringing the actions of others into contrast, by which the different shades of character are more distinctly ascertained, and the *plus* or *minus* of moral excellence, which that character maintains, completely established. The historian is the chronicler of events, not the

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creator of them; and he commits a flagrant breach of his duty, if he averts his view from the actual truth, in order to foster or conceal the prevailing foibles or the distinguished vice of those characters which come under his immediate examination. The impartial historian is a true patriot, and genuine patriotism is one of those virtues which confer the highest honor on man, and is one of the principal securities of a state. It does, in fact, embrace within itself every excellence which can give a grace to human nature in society; for in exact proportion as a man fails in any public or private duty, by so much is his patriotic character lessened. To be a patriot indeed, necessarily implies great private integrity and disinterestedness, an unbiassed judgment, and the nicest sense of moral and social obligation. If he wilfully averts his view from a flagrant dereliction of those separate and important duties, the performance of which is attached to particular stations in life, he forgets his allegiance to the majesty of truth, and becomes amenable at its bar for the crime which he has committed. The propriety of the measure of keeping the veil closely drawn over the actions of exalted individuals, in those cases in which the actions themselves have no immediate relation to the public interests of the nation, but which form a particular link in the chain of their private life, cannot, in the slightest degree, be questioned, when considered under a certain

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modification of circumstances; but, on the other hand, when in the tissue of events in the private life of any individual, some of a mingled yarn appear in which the dark predominates, it becomes the duty of the historian to investigate the real cause from which that dark tincture originated; and, unbiassed by prejudice or party spirit, and uninfluenced by personal advantages, boldly to declare that cause, though the anathemas of the opposite party may be poured in triple-fold vengeance upon his head.

These reflections have been necessarily excited by the recollection of that report which at this juncture "crept out through the dark cranny of the night," and was most industriously circulated during this visit of the several branches of the royal family to Brighton, of a total want of concord, actually allied to positive coolness and indifference, which displayed itself in the intercourse between particular members of the illustrious family. If one drove east, the other drove west, and they never appeared in public together. Though etiquette prevented the one party from assuming the humble character of the pedestrian, to which the other appeared to entertain a particular predilection, still there was that distance shewn, under other circumstances, which was too plainly indicative of a private disagreement, and which could not escape even the observation of those whose powers of vision are of a very convenient nature, and which are solely directed to the contemplation

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of those objects which are pleasing to their patron, and which, were they properly examined, would bear a very repulsive aspect.

The subsisting difference between certain members of the royal family became at last the topic of conversation at the public libraries of the town. It was the delightful subject of argument at the evening coterie of the ladies; and the grey-headed politician, when he met his brother in the street, took him by the button of his coat, and detained him, until the cause of the royal disagreement was fully investigated, and then parted, each maintaining his own opinion on the subject.

It was at length generally credited, from particular circumstances which transpired, that this numerous meeting of the several branches of the Royal Family had been suggested by an illustrious individual, for the express purpose of effecting a reconciliation between the offended parties, and the intention alone bespeaks the native goodness of his heart; but when the sore has been long rankling, increased rather than assuaged by time, its cure is not the work of a moment; and notwithstanding the most lenient balsams may be applied, which affection or ingenuity can devise, a trivial but unintentional act may in a moment open it afresh, and impart to it a virulence, which no after skill can remedy.

Whatever may have been the exterior display

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of returning affection and esteem between the parties, it is certain that on the one part no alteration whatever took place in her sentiments, and not a single step was gained towards a full and complete reconciliation.

The evenings of the royal party at the Pavilion were usually spent in the rational entertainment of music, and the Princess Charlotte being a proficient in that science, often delighted the company with her performance. On one of these occasions her Royal Highness, in an apparently careless manner, played the masquerade song in the farce of "My Grandmother;" then turning, with a great degree of archness to one of the company, she asked, "What do you think of My Grandmother?" "I think there is some humour in the piece," answered General C——. "I think *there is some very bad humour in her*," said the Princess Charlotte, "*I don't like the piece at all.*"

With great satisfaction the Princess Charlotte saw the day arrive which was fixed for her departure from Brighton, as she was anxious to return to the tranquil and rational pursuits of her favorite home, and to be released from the tiresome and insipid ceremonies of a court life. The birth-day of Prince Leopold was also near at hand, and it being the first since his residence in England, and union with the Princess Charlotte, it was resolved that it should be celebrated with an uncommon degree of splendor.

On the evening previous to the departure of

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the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, Mr. Thewencti, an ingenious foreigner, at the express desire of the former, had the honor of exhibiting his extraordinary piece of clock-work mechanism, called a microcosm, at the palace, with which her Majesty, the Regent, and the whole of the royal party and suite, expressed themselves to be both surprised and delighted. The extraordinary construction and movements of this curious piece of workmanship cannot be described, it must be seen to be adequately comprehended.

On the 15th the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold took their leave of the royal party at Brighton, and arrived at Claremont the same evening.

Monday, the following day, was the birth-day of Prince Leopold, and the most splendid arrangements were made for its celebration. In the morning Prince Leopold received the congratulations of several of the nobility and other distinguished characters; and scarcely had the gentlemen departed, who had been anxiously waiting to offer their congratulations, which he received most gratefully, than he approached Colonel Addenbroke, and said, "Let the poor of the village of Esher have meat and bread distributed to them to day;" and accordingly, arrangements were made for every poor person and child to have a joint of meat, and a quartern loaf. Each female had sufficient flannel given to her to make

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a petticoat. This benevolence on the part of Prince Leopold is indeed worthy of example.

The birth-day dinner was graced by the presence of some of the most distinguished characters of the day. The Prince and Princess Esterhazy, and the Count and Countess Lieven were of the party. The evening concluded with a diversity of entertainments which the taste and ingenuity of the Princess had devised; and the party did not break up till a late hour, highly delighted with the hospitable reception with which they had been honored by the illustrious couple. On the following day a grand entertainment was given to the domestics and their friends, which concluded with a ball and supper.

The Princess Charlotte was a short time afterwards again attacked with a slight indisposition, for which various causes were assigned; it was, however, generally believed to be connected with the fulfilment of those hopes, to which the nation looked forward with so much anxiety. This indisposition was, however, of short duration, for she was enabled to attend to the preparations which were then making for the celebration of her own birth-day, which was to be kept with a degree of splendor, corresponding with that which was observed on the birth-day of Prince Leopold.

It was at first arranged, that the 21st anniversary-day of the Princess Charlotte's birth should

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be celebrated by the Royal Family at the Pavilion at Brighton, and that the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold should be invited to join the royal party. A decided negative to this plan was, however, given by the Princess Charlotte, who determined that her birth-day should be celebrated at Claremont.

The Prince Regent, nevertheless, resolved that the birth-day of his beloved daughter should be celebrated at Brighton, with a proportionate degree of splendor, and invitations were accordingly sent to a great number of the nobility, for the concert, ball, and supper, independently of those noble personages who were to dine with the Prince Regent and the Royal Family on that day. As the period for court mourning had expired, th company were recommended to countenance dress only of English manufacture.

On the 6th, the day previous to the fête, the nobility flocked into the town of Brighton from all quarters, which contributed to its bustle, and more particularly to the advantage of numerous tradesmen, whose industry received a corresponding activity in consequence of the preparations which were then going on at the Pavilion. Owing to the indisposition of her Majesty, a temporary suspension of the invitations occurred; and if the bulletin, which arrived on the preceding Sunday to the Prince Regent, had not been so flattering, his Royal Highness intended to proceed to Windsor on a visit to his mother.

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The number of cards issued by the Lord Chamberlain exceeded three hundred.

On the 7th, the natal day, the whole town of Brighton was in motion; the dinner party at the Pavilion consisted of nearly forty distinguished personages. The invitation tickets expressed "*Out of mourning*," and the court sables were consequently laid aside. The dresses of the ladies were peculiarly elegant, many of them splendid; diamonds, rubies and pearls, being in sparkling profusion.

The Prince Regent having issued a command, that such articles only as were the immediate manufacture of the country, should be worn on this occasion, this patriotic order appeared to be most scrupulously attended to, for neither foreign silks, nor even foreign lace, nor foreign materials of any sort were to be perceived.

At nine o'clock the company for the ball began to arrive, and by ten o'clock the dancing commenced in the magnificent ball-room, which was splendidly illuminated with cut-glass lustres and globe lamps. Upward of fifty couple stood up, arranged in two sets. His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence led off with the graceful Lady Charlotte Cholmondeley, and Prince Esterhazy with Miss Seymour. They were followed by—

Lord Clive,	Miss J. Floyd.
Lord Castlereagh,	Hon. Miss Twisselton.
Mr. C. Percy,	Lady Emily Bathurst.
Capt. C. Whyte,	Miss Lucretia Schiffner.

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Mr. Leach,	Lady Maria Meade.
Sir J. Wood,	Hon Miss Seymour.
Sir Henry Rycroft,	Miss Rowen.
Sir Tyrwhitt Jones,	Hon. Miss Onslow.

The royal Duke danced, in the course of the evening, two other country dances with the accomplished Miss Seymour. In the evening, between these national dances, several quadrilles were performed by the beautiful Mrs. Paterson, (late Madame Jerome Buonaparte), the Misses Caton, and Miss Floyd, who danced in a manner which engaged the attention of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent and his illustrious visitors.

At two o'clock the company retired for refreshment, which consisted of every delicacy; and such eagerness was shewn to resume the mazy round, that few sat down to partake of the sumptuous repast.

Dancing was afterwards resumed, and kept up with great spirit till five o'clock, when the ball terminated in the true old English style, with the deservedly popular dance of "*Sir Roger de Coverley,*" led off by the Duke of Clarence and Miss S. Caton. The company then retired, charmed with the hospitality of his Royal Highness, who appeared to enter fully into the amusements of the evening.

At Claremont this happy day was celebrated in the most joyous manner; that part of the royal family, which from particular circumstances were not included in the royal party at Brighton, partook of a sumptuous dinner, and the evening

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was spent in the enjoyment of those festivities, which the occasion excited.

The day was past in mirth and festivity, and the head rested on the pillow with the grateful satisfaction of having contributed to the happiness of others.—But had the dread veil of futurity been raised, what cold and cheerless feelings would have crept upon the heart! In the full bloom of youth and beauty stood the lovely object of general congratulation. In her eye then glistened the bright sun of health, and in her veins flowed the full tide of youthful vigour. The rose was in the zenith of its bloom, fresh and fragrant, and its leaves had not yet felt the influence of the blast of death. It stood the object of admiration to the gazer, and they were happy who could come within the circle of its fragrance. It was a transitory bliss. In the very core the worm was gnawing, which was to lay this lovely floweret low; and death, "grinning his ghastly smile," sat in anticipation, triumphant over his victim. Oh! with what gall would, in that very hour, the goblet have been mixed, had the dreadful thought intruded itself,—that ere twelve moons were passed, she, who sat in their presence dispensing happiness around her, and by her smiles making mirth more mirthful, would from the earth be swept, leaving but the remembrance of her virtues to console them! The harp, from which her pliant fingers on that evening drew the sweetest sounds of harmony, now stands deso-

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late; a gust, perchance, sweeps across its strings, and by its cadence rouses the lonely mourner—he sees before him the form he loved, till on a sudden bursts upon him the dread reality; he knows not whence that well-known sound proceeds; till raising his eyes above, he sees enthroned the spirit of his love, and harps of angels lulling her to rest!

The following lines were written and sent to the Princess Charlotte on her birth-day; and although their poetical merit cannot be considered as great, yet they were prized by her Royal Highness, for she knew the hand, and valued the heart which dictated them:—

Whilst with delight I view the blushing morn,
When Phœbus lights the cheerful lamp of day;
Whose orient beams the eastern world adorn,
Making all nature blooming, fresh, and gay;

Th' auspicious moment comes into my mind,
Which, fraught with pleasure, will be treasur'd long,
That gave to Charlotte birth, and to mankind
A theme sublimer than the Muse's song.

Her ripen'd sense with graceful manners join'd,
In the primeval innocence of youth:
Respects the greatness of a noble mind,
Replete with knowledge, modesty, and truth.

Her love of liberty, and ardent zeal
For Britain's glory and her Sovereign's good,
To all in fairest characters will tell,
Th' illustrious offspring of great Brunswick's blood.

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And while such conduct animates her breast
In ev'ry gen'rous and each great design,
We see the daughter with those virtues blest,
Which in the Father so transcendent shine.

If genius, wisdom, prudence, can inspire
Her country with fair virtue's secret charm
Let Charlotte's merits ev'ry bosom fire,
Her worth superior, envy's sting disarm.

May then her Birth-day, source of endless joy
To noble Coburg and his princely race,
In thoughts propitious ev'ry mind employ,
And mirth and pleasure smile on ev'ry face.

The inclemency of the season, at this period of the year, prevented the Princess Charlotte from enjoying her customary recreations in the garden and grounds; and, with a strict sense of the value of time, she directed her attention to the study of the fine arts, and to the acquirement of an extensive knowledge of the more abstruse sciences. The library now became her favorite place of resort, and she resolved to decorate it with the busts of the most eminent poets and philosophers which this country has produced. Her Royal Highness accordingly commissioned Mr. Hardenberg to procure for her the busts of Shakspeare, Milton, Hogarth, and other eminent men; not confining herself, however, to the natives of this country, for in her collection were included the busts of Linnæus, Handel, Leibnitz, Wieland, and several of the Roman and Grecian

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authors. For the artists of her native country her Royal Highness, however, always entertained a strong predilection, and indigent merit was certain to find in her a munificent patroness. On a particular occasion, a drawing of one of the most picturesque scenes in the grounds of Claremont was exhibited to her Royal Highness, which had been executed by a youth in a very subordinate situation in her establishment; she discovered in the performance some strong traits of native genius, and immediately sent the youth to a seminary, where he could reap the benefit of a liberal education; and a strong injunction was imposed upon his preceptor, that the most assiduous care should be bestowed upon his drawing, which he was to learn from its fundamental principles. This youth, however, did not live long to enjoy the patronage of so illustrious an individual, having died in about two months after being placed at the seminary.

Some negotiations were now carried on, with the view of procuring a town residence for the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold; for, on a minute investigation of the expense which would be incurred in the fitting up of Cumberland-House, it was found so far to exceed the sum which had been originally stated to her Royal Highness, that she immediately intimated her desire, that no further arrangements should be made respecting

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Cumberland-House, as her Royal Highness was unwilling that the nation should be burdened with such an extraordinary expenditure on her account.

A proper choice of books was considered by the Princess Charlotte as of the utmost importance; and, although her Royal Highness coincided in the general maxim, that "there is no book so bad, from which some good may not be extracted," yet she considered her time more usefully engaged in the perusal of one book, the excellence of which was acknowledged, than in the reading of many, in which information was thinly scattered, and which it required no ordinary degree of labor and perseverance to extract. In the choice of her books, her Royal Highness consulted the opinion of persons of literary eminence; she inquired what books they themselves were in the habit of perusing, and which, in each branch of science, stood the highest in their estimation. Hence, the library at Claremont presents, at this time, one of the best-formed selections of books, which is to be found either in the palace of a prince, or the mansion of a nobleman.

Claremont might indeed be called the abode of connubial happiness and domestic bliss; a brighter, purer picture of those mundane joys could not be presented to the view of the admiring philanthropist, and the contemplation aggravates the public sense of the loss of the principal character, in a scene so beautifully interesting.

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In possession of all that princely wealth or rank could give, her Royal Highness and her illustrious consort preferred the retirement of Claremont to the pleasures of the court and the fashionable world, and, happy in the society of each other, they lived the life of our English gentry at their country seats. But this preference of domestic life, of home, and its tranquil enjoyments, would have been regarded as an argument of singular worth, in the rich and the great of private life: of how much more worth, therefore, is the argument, where it is found in a rank, which must have sacrificed so much to attain it. The heiress of the greatest throne in the world might be daily seen watering the flowers in her garden at Claremont; and still more frequently walking or riding in the green lanes, without any other society than that of her illustrious husband. Indeed so truly happy did they appear in each other, that the circumstance of their royal condition seemed to be almost banished, or rather never to be present to their minds. The Princess had a taste for none but innocent and rural pleasures; and in the society of her husband, these had more attractions for her than all the splendor of London and the court.

It must in justice be added, that Prince Leopold, on his part, seemed to deserve the virtues of such a wife; and that, both together, they afforded a picture of connubial satisfaction, fidelity and happiness, which, even in England, is seldom to be

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THE PRINCESS CHARLOTTE & PRINCE LEOPOLD RIDING TO CHURCH.

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found, except amongst those whom domestic example and an improved understanding have formed to a just taste and virtue.

These illustrious individuals might have said with the great bard,—

> Come,
> We two will sit alone, like birds i' th' cage.
> When thou dost ask my blessing, I'll kneel down
> And ask of thee forgiveness. Thus we'll live,
> And pray, and sing, and tell old tales, and laugh
> At gilded butterflies; hear sycophants
> Talk of court news, and we'll talk with them too;
> Who loses and who wins—who's in, who's out;
> And take upon us the mystery of things,
> As if we were Heaven's spies.

During the first months of the residence of her Royal Highness at Claremont, her attendance on divine service, at the parish church of Esher, was regular and constant; and it must certainly be allowed, that during those months, the inhabitants of Esher and its vicinity exhibited a corresponding disposition to the due performance of their public religious duties. An adherence to truth is, however, the paramount duty of an historian; and, in this instance, it might with justice be considered as a gross dereliction from it, were it not to be stated, that the crowds, which resorted to Esher church every sabbath, went, to parody a line of Pope's,

> Not for the sermon—but the Princess there.

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For her Royal Highness no sooner discontinued her visits to Esher church, than many others withdrew their presence also; and it does not require the deep powers of the logician or the casuist to determine the cause from which that effect proceeded. It is, however, curious to mark the dispositions of certain individuals, who, rather than not adduce a cause for an effect, will supply one from the fertile stores of their own imagination; never considering whether it bears any relation to the actual truth, or whether it presents in its character the slightest shade of genuineness. That the total abandonment of her public devotional duties, on the part of the Princess Charlotte, could only be ascribed to some strong and cogent reason, became a matter, which the most hardy disputant would not contend against; and therefore, with a due portion of ignorance of the real character of the Princess Charlotte, it has been stated that her abstaining from visiting Esher church arose from the number of booted beaux and dashing élégantes, who, on hired steeds and in glass coaches, hurried from the metropolis, to render the virtuous village of Esher, on a Sunday, a scene of dissipation; and substituting a struggle for the nearest pew, and the confusion of a country dinner, for that devotion which ought to have been practised by the said beaux and belles in their own parish churches. The mere supposition that her Royal Highness could have been induced to abstain from the performance of her pub-

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lic religious acts, in consequence of the rude stare of a booted beau or the keen gaze of a bedizened belle, would be a gross libel upon her character; and it was only requisite to witness the ease and condescension with which her Royal Highness received and returned the salutations of the people, who lined each side of the path leading from the church to where her carriage usually stood in attendance, to give the most decided negative to any display, on the part of her Royal Highness, of pride or uneasiness at the anxiety which was shewn to see her; on the contrary, she was often heard to express her gratification at those tokens of respect which were universally testified towards her, and at the interest with which she was so unequivocally regarded.

It is to be hoped, that in rendering public the real cause of the Princess Charlotte desisting from her visits to Esher church, not the slightest umbrage will be taken by that highly respectable and much esteemed individual, to whom this act of the Princess Charlotte particularly refers.

The present incumbent of Esher has resided there above fifty years, and the infirmities of age are now heavy upon him; added to extreme deafness, his articulation is so indistinct, that neither the sense nor argument of his discourses are rendered intelligible to his congregation. The Princess Charlotte was not one of those frivolous characters who attend divine service for the mere exhibition of their persons, or the elegance of

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their dress. Her visits to church were founded on the principles of genuine piety; she went for improvement, edification, and instruction; and finding from the physical infirmities of the reverend divine who officiated, that not one of those advantages could be reaped, she fitted up a chapel in Claremont-House, in which divine service was performed by the domestic chaplain every sabbath; and it was a most gratifying and interesting sight to behold this truly religious Princess at the head of her establishment, in humble adoration before their God, and joining with them in their holy songs. Well might the Princess Charlotte have exclaimed with the Poet:—

" Yet on that day, hallowed by ages past,
To which exhausted labour looks for rest,
And tumult for the hour of sacred peace,
My feet shall hasten from their sylvan haunts,
Tho' sweet as fabling poets ever sung;
Mine ear the warbling Philomel forego,
And all the woodland harmony of spring,
To raise with man a nobler strain of praise—
Man, who alone of all creation knows
His Maker to adore, with vocal praise.
Whether the village church attracts my steps,
Whose simple bell calls from the hamlet round
Their meek inhabitants to praise their God,
Where all is decent, quiet, plain, and fit,
And untaught voices hymn their Maker's praise;
Or whether, in some old cathedral pile,
I find myself enclos'd with cloister'd cells,
Long Gothic aisles, and windows richly dim;
Where slowly rising to the pealing sound

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Of swelling organ, the low-echoing chaunt
And lofty anthem raise the enraptur'd soul,—
Alike I own Thy presence, hear Thy word;
Nor would I ever for the world forego
This dearest privilege to man allowed,
Due as the sun each sabbath-day shall shine,
To meet, with kindred man, the parent God!"

On the 23d of January the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold had a large party to dine with them; and this may, in some measure, be considered as their first political dinner. Lord Liverpool, Lord Castlereagh, Mr. Huskisson, and other members of the cabinet were present; and although it was contended at the time that the meeting of these great political characters at Claremont, had some ulterior view, which was in a short time to disclose itself; yet, whatever this mountain, might have been pregnant with at the time, and great as was the anxiety to discover the issue, it is certain that it never arrived to the knowledge of the public, either in its remote or proximate bearings. Lord and Lady Castlereagh, and Mr. Huskisson, remained at Claremont that night, and returned to town to dinner on the following day.

At this period the attention of the public was excited to the forlorn and destitute condition of the poor Irish labourers in the metropolis, and a subscription was set on foot by some philanthropic individuals for their relief. The situation of these

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distressed individuals was no sooner mentioned to the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, than they immediately transmitted a donation of fifty pounds.

A gentleman well known in the speculating world, for proposing bridges, canals, and other expensive undertakings; but who, possesses a truly estimable character, presented to the Princess Charlotte, at this time, the outlines of a plan for the improvement of Surrey and the adjoining counties. The high sanction with which the undertaking was honored was mentioned to her Royal Highness, who, observing the work was by Mr. Philipps, the person who had long and ably promoted the cause of finding employment for the poor, and ameliorating their condition, "The poor man's friend, is my friend," said the Princess, and immediately directed her name and her subscription to be transmitted to the person alluded to.

The celebration of the Queen's birth-day was near at hand, and the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold left Claremont for a short time, to reside at Camelford-House, in order to be present at the ceremony, as it was the first birth-day of the Queen which had occurred since their marriage. The Court, in honor of the Queen's birth-day, had been originally fixed for the 6th of February, but her Majesty at that time, being unable from the effects of her late illness to bear

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the fatigues incident to these occasions, it was postponed until the 20th, when her Majesty was entirely recovered.

Every thing which tended, even in a remote degree, to ameliorate the condition of the country, which at this period was in a most distressed and alarming state, was regarded by the Princess Charlotte with peculiar sympathy, she was accustomed to say, that single-handed, she could not alleviate the distresses of the people; but by her co-operating with others, whose influence and means were equal to her own, the laudable work might be achieved. The resolution of her Royal Highness to attend the celebration of the Queen's birth-day, was, in a great measure, connected with her patriotic views; as her august Father, with a view to relieve the distresses of the manufacturing classes by affording them employment, had issued his directions in the Gazette, that all those who attended the Court on the approaching celebration of the Queen's birth-day, should appear in dresses entirely of British manufacture. In further pursuance of this plan, his Royal Highness ordered all his state and household officers to wear costly dresses of home fabrication, and those dresses were directed to be made into three classes of uniforms, according to the respective rank of those officers. Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, willing to second the patriotic views of her illustrious Father, determined to appear at Court in a most superb dress of

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English manufacture; and she was heard to say, that she would have worn the diamonds and pearls which decorated her person with greater pleasure, had they been the produce of her native country.

The Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold arrived in town on the 18th, and the contrast between the dullness and confinement of Camelford-House, and the beautiful and exhilarating scenery of Claremont, struck most forcibly upon the feelings of the Princess Charlotte. "I begin to think," said her Royal Highness, as she was standing, on the following morning, close to one of the windows which look upon the street, "that Rousseau was not much in the wrong, when he declared, 'that man, living in a town, is a degenerated being; his feelings and his habits must be warped according to the objects which surround him, and his ideas contracted by the confined range to which his mental powers must necessarily be restricted.' As for myself, I am certain that had my residence been fixed in the midst of a city, I never should have acquired that knowledge of the power of an almighty Being, with which a view of his works in the country has inspired me."

On the day appointed for the celebration of the birth-day, the Princess Charlotte appeared to look forward to the necessary forms of etiquette with great displeasure. "I should feel no satisfaction whatever in this splendid dress," said her Royal

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Highness, "if the thought did not accompany it, that the manufacture of it has perhaps given relief to some distressed workmen; for I know only one court which can impart a pleasant feeling to my heart, and that is, the court of Nature."

The birth-day was announced as usual by the ringing of bells, and the salute of artillery; and the people, reminded by these intimations, flocked in great numbers to the vicinity of the Queen's palace. The Prince Regent arrived in state about half-past three. Most of the Royal Family went in state; the Duke and Duchess of York arrived first; then the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold; next the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester; and, lastly, the Duke of Sussex, and the Princess Sophia of Gloucester.

The Queen entered the drawing-room about two; and the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, having offered their congratulations to her Majesty, almost instantly withdrew. The populace greeted the illustrious couple with the loudest acclamations.

The dislike which her Royal Highness entertained for even a temporary residence at Camelford-House, was so great, that the object of her journey to town was no sooner accomplished, than not an hour was afterwards lost before preparations were made for her return to Claremont. Accordingly, on the day subsequent to the birth-day, her Royal Highness and Prince Leopold set off for Claremont, and arrived to dinner.

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Her Royal Highness had at this time some valuable exotic plants, which, for several months, she had tended with peculiar care, and which were hourly expected to blow. These were amongst the first objects of her inquiry; and, on being informed that two of them were in flower, in a few minutes, notwithstanding it rained heavily, her Royal Highness tripped down to the gardens; and was so delighted with her flowers, that she ordered them to be immediately taken to the house. The pleasure which the Princess Charlotte enjoyed in the culture of flowers, was greatly increased by a corresponding attachment on the part of her beloved consort to the science of botany, and by the great progress which he had made towards the attainment of it. It was generally one of their favorite occupations, during their morning excursions, to collect the simple flowers which blow on the grounds of Claremont, and the adjoining fields and hedges; and then in the evening, seated in the library, this happy pair would examine their morning collection, arrange the flowers according to their respective classes, and her Royal Highness then added them to her *Hortus Siccus*, which, had that lamented individual been spared to us, would have been the most complete, not only in regard to indigenous, but exotic flowers, which the most skilful and persevering botanist could desire. It will, however, convey some satisfaction to the admirers of the interesting science of botany, to be informed,

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that so great is the delight which Prince Leopold takes in the prosecution and completion of those plans, the foundation of which were laid by the hands of his now sainted Charlotte, that her *Hortus Siccus* has been lately enriched with many rare flowers, collected by his Serene Highness; and it is his determination to persevere in the collection, until it may become, at length, a national ornament, and a unique specimen of the beauties of the vegetable world.

During the rides of the Princess Charlotte about the grounds of Claremont, her attention was particularly attracted by the industry and activity of a poor lad of the name of Learwood, who was about thirteen or fourteen years of age, and was usually employed in the gardens at Claremont, who often exhibited that humane and generous disposition which was so congenial to the feelings of her Royal Highness. The boy, during his vacant hours, had trained, by mild treatment, a couple of favorite donkeys, for the purpose of running in a light vehicle about the park and grounds. The Princess and her beloved consort often entered into familiar conversation with this boy, and expressed their cordial approbation of his diligence.

The Princess Charlotte extracted knowledge from every circumstance, however slight and superficial in its apparent complexion, and which would have been passed over by many who look for information only in more striking and distinguished objects; and who appear to discard the

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maxim, that the greatest discoveries, like the power of gravity, discovered by the falling apple, are to be attributed to trivial causes. The Princess Charlotte declared, that the tractability and obedience which Learwood had taught his donkeys, gave her a greater insight into the natural history of that animal, than all which Buffon had ever written upon it; and her Royal Highness was henceforth convinced, that the stupid and obstinate dispositions ascribed to that animal, arose more from the hard and cruel treatment which it generally experiences, than from its fixed and determined nature.

One morning as her Royal Highness was riding along one of the lanes to the south of the park, she saw a wretch beating an ass most unmercifully; and Learwood and his donkeys immediately rose in the recollection of her Royal Highness. She sent an attendant to inquire if the man would sell his ass—"Ay, and be thankful too," said the man, "to get rid of such a d—d obstinate devil." The ass was purchased, delivered over to the care of Learwood; and the Princess Charlotte soon became confirmed in her hypothesis, that naturalists have entirely mistaken the real character of the ass.

This occurrence often brought the boy into familiar conversation with her Royal Highness; and the interest which she took in his pursuits, and the flattering encomiums which she passed upon him so endeared her Royal Highness to him,

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that on the fatal intelligence of the death of his royal Benefactress being communicated to him, he was so overwhelmed with grief, that he instantly fled from Claremont and all its enjoyments; and so long as the corpse of her Royal Highness remained there, nothing could induce him to return: he even preferred the melancholy abode of a parent, unfortunately confined for debt in the Fleet prison.

At the funeral he was in vain invited to return to see the grandeur of the procession. "I would rather be a hundred miles another way," replied the youth; but as soon as the funeral was over, having purchased a suit of mourning from his own earnings, he returned, and was again instantly employed in the gardens at Claremont.

The infinite importance which the Princess Charlotte attached to a proper distribution and improvement of her time, may, in a great degree, be traced to her early acquaintance with the inspired writings, in which the admonition to redeem our time is inculcated with greater force, and more frequently than in any other works. To demonstrate the necessity of this consideration, the Scriptures have represented the shortness and uncertainty of our continuance in this life, by similitudes the most fleeting and transitory that can possibly be imagined. The Princess Charlotte knew how to apply those similitudes to her own individual situation; and her mind and heart, by degrees, became attuned to those nice and gentle feelings which form the pleasure of our existence.

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Her Royal Highness had moved in a sphere of life, in which she could take a survey of those who are styled the favorites of fortune; who revel in the lap of pleasure, and possess all the advantages which riches and honor can bestow; who, from their elevated situation in life, and the apparently few cares with which they are surrounded, we should naturally imagine, had both leisure and opportunity to improve their time like rational creatures to the most exalted purposes; but did the experience of the Princess Charlotte convince her of the truth of it?—Alas! no: the pursuits of pleasure, the gay amusements, and fashionable diversions of a depraved, licentious age, engross all their time, engage all their attention, and divert their minds from nobler objects. "Little," said her Royal Highness, "do these sons of vanity and dissipation think that a period will most certainly arrive, when neither the treasures of the Indies nor the mines of Peru, when even the universe itself will want wealth to purchase a few moments of that precious time, they now so foolishly, so lavishly trifle away!"

It was the exercise of reflections similar to these, which imparted such a decided character to the disposition and pursuits of the Princess Charlotte; and gave to them, if the term may be allowed, a sort of masculine rigour, which could not be softened by any of the adventitious circumstances to which her exalted station rendered her liable.

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It very seldom happened that the Princess Charlotte ever exceeded the limits of the Park in her morning excursions; and if, perchance, she drove beyond them, her attention appeared to be constantly directed to the situation of the lower classes of the inhabitants of the adjacent cottages; and she would stop and question them respecting their wants and necessities, and particularly of the manner in which the children were educated. On the latter point her Royal Highness was always very minute in her inquiries; and whenever she discovered that the means of the family were not adequate to the expense attending the education of the children, the deficiency was soon supplied by the bounty of her Royal Highness; and many a child has now to thank her for that tuition, which it otherwise would not have received, and which raised it in a comparative degree in the scale of moral beings. It was not, however, only to the young, but to the old, that this amiable Princess extended the munificent hand of her charity, as the following instance will testify.

During one of my visits to Claremont, I was passing over the common which fronts Claremont-House, when my attention was directed to an old woman, digging sand, whose countenance bespoke misery and want, and whose tattered garments were not sufficient to protect her from the inclemency of the weather. There was something in the general appearance of this woman which would have excited the sympathy of the most ob-

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durate breast; and accosting her, I asked—"How is it that you are obliged to undertake this hard work?" "Ah! Sir," said she, "it is indeed hard work, and my poor old back is *so bad*—but I am obliged to do it, for my poor sons are not able to keep me; and I have lost a *good friend*," pointing to Claremont—"what a shocking thing it is, Sir! —Poor lady!—O there was many a sorry heart on that day; and mine, I am sure, has never ceased to ache since; for do you know, Sir, she used to send me many presents, and kept me from the workhouse, where I must go now, for work as hard as I will, I cannot earn more than two shillings a week." A man calling her from the other side of the common, broke off the conversation. The poor woman threw her shovel across her shoulder, and left me, after repeating many blessings on my head for the trifle which I had given her.

It was, indeed, to the aged and the infirm, in particular, that the bounty of her Royal Highness was dispensed. On the arrival of the illustrious couple at Claremont, there were several aged men and women residing in different tenements in the park, who had been servants to the different possessors of the estate, but who, never yet having served a Prince or Princess, were impressed with the fear that they would not be allowed to retain their habitations. One of the old women, whose husband was shepherd to Mr. Ellis, and who is now blind with age, kept a little school at one of the lodges, which was given to them by Mr. Ellis as their habitation, on

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account of their long and faithful services. They could not entertain the slightest hope, that a *Princess* would allow them to retain their dwelling and continue the little school, and they actually made preparations to occupy another cottage. This information was no sooner conveyed to her Royal Highness, than she sent a message to them, giving them free leave to remain; and often when her Royal Highness passed by the school, she would peep into it undiscovered, and retire, exclaiming with a smile, "Happy little creatures!"

The enthusiasm which the Princess Charlotte exhibited in collecting the choicest flowers, has been already noticed; and the ardour with which Prince Leopold prosecuted his botanical studies, gave rise to some actions on the part of the Princess Charlotte, which could not fail to endear her to her beloved husband. In their evening social *tête-à-têtes*, Prince Leopold would, perhaps, exclaim—"I wish I had such a plant." "Indeed!" would her Royal Highness say with a smile, "if the happiness of life consists in wishing, and in the subsequent attainment of those wishes, you must, indeed, be a happy man; but I will procure the cap of Fortunatus, and then you have only to wish, to be immediately gratified." Then, in a dexterous manner, her Royal Highness would change the discourse; but the following morning she would hasten to the garden, and give her instructions that such a particular plant should be obtained, and that all the florists,

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gardens in the vicinity of the metropolis should be searched to procure it. Having obtained the object of her search, and it being deposited in the green-house or hot-house, she would lead Prince Leopold, as if inadvertently, to the spot. Thus the satisfaction which he testified in obtaining the wished-for plant, was doubly enhanced by the manner in which it had been procured.

Oh! the recollection of those days bursts upon our minds in the full flow of our tears, and calls forth from the soul a thousand sensations pregnant with the most poignant sorrow!

> Oh! then the longest summer's day,
> Seem'd too, too much in haste; still the full heart
> Had not imparted half; t'was happiness
> Too exquisite to last.

On the 12th of March, as Prince Leopold was handing the Princess Charlotte into her poney-cart, they were surprised by the arrival of the Grand Duke Nicholas of Russia, who came to take leave of their Royal and Serene Highnesses on his departure from this country. The Grand Duke staid but a short time, and then proceeded to Windsor to dine with the Queen.

The spring of the year was now advancing, and nature began to assume the hue of renovated life; from every bush and spray, from every dell and grove, the feathered songsters welcomed the season's change; the violet and the primrose filled the air with their odours; the insect wan-

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toned in the genial sun-beam; the vivifying power of creation was unloosed, and with its fructifying spirit swelled the latent germ. But great as might be the pleasure of these objects to the contemplative mind, there was one amidst the shades of Claremont, who, in interest, eclipsed them all. The Spirit of Love had descended upon her, and the first, the great command of her Maker was to be fulfilled; the rapturous feelings of the mother dawned in her bosom, and

> All Heaven,
> And happy constellations on that hour
> Shed their selectest influence; the earth
> Gave signs of gratulation, and each hill;
> Joyous the birds; fresh gales and gentle airs
> Whisper'd it to the woods, and from their wings
> Flung rose, flung odours from the spicy shrub,
> Disporting; till th' am'rous bird of night
> Sung spousal, and bid haste the ev'ning star
> On his hill-top, to light the bridal lamp.

With the return of spring, the improvements and alterations in the gardens and grounds at Claremont were re-commenced, and the whole became a scene of bustle and activity. The hot-houses having been found not to be sufficiently large to contain the numerous exotics which the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold had collected, it was determined to build several new ones, and one in particular was to be constructed of lofty dimensions, to be appropriated to plants of a larger stature; and the Princess Charlotte would

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often speak in enthusiastic terms, of the pleasure she anticipated, when she should be able to view the plants in one assemblage, and behold them in the full bloom of their beauty.

Her Royal Highness also planned a conservatory, which was to be erected in one of the highest parts of the grounds; from which a most extensive prospect presents itself, and which was to be chiefly appropriated to geraniums, myrtles, lemon and orange trees, and other plants, which did not immediately require the temperature of the hot-house. During the summer months, this building was to have been fitted up as a refectory, with a small library, whither the happy couple were to retire after dinner to take their coffee, or in which her Royal Highness might rest herself during her morning rambles. The situation of this conservatory can scarcely be equalled for the beauty of the scenery which surrounds it. From this spot the exquisite taste which planned the grounds is most conspicuously displayed; which, happily blending the light and shade that breaks through the diversified foliage, gave to it all that our fabling poets tell us of a fairy spot.

At a short distance from this conservatory, is a small stone edifice, with five pillars of the Corinthian order in front, the situation of which is one of the most romantic that can be imagined. In this building, the Duke of Newcastle used to sit, to see his servants play at skittles, or to

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THE GOTHIC TEMPLE IN CLAREMONT PARK.

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witness the cruel diversion of cock-fighting. Such low amusements, however, not being congenial to the taste of Prince Leopold, and as skittle-grounds were considered by the Princess Charlotte as rather out of character, on a demesne where taste and elegance only were to be exhibited, they were, at her express desire, removed; and little clumps of rose-trees, intermixed with other shrubs and flowers were to decorate the spot. Two large mounds of earth now appear, where the skittle-grounds formerly stood; but neither the rose-trees nor the shrubs are yet planted.—Recollection leads us from these lovely spots, absorbed in grief! their presiding Genius is gone, and they therefore only appear to us as the mementos of a transitory bliss.

But the most beautiful of all objects in the grounds at Claremont, is the Gothic temple, an account of which has been slightly touched upon in a preceding part of these Memoirs. This may almost be called a hallowed spot; the genius of all that is affectionate, of all that is tender, of all that is lovely, hovers around it! It was destined not to be dedicated to any earthly saint,—but to the spirit of love, in its most heavenly form. It was intended to commemorate the union of this illustrious pair, and to be the witness of their private happiness. Hither they intended to retire from the dull round of fashionable life and courtly etiquette; and in the grand view of Nature's works, spread so lavishly before

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them, to feel their minds exalted to Nature's God. The coo of the distant ringdove was the emblem of their connubial love; and as they beheld the parent bird carrying the food to its neighbouring nest, a smile came over the countenance of the happy pair, but no language could tell its meaning.

In one dread moment rushed from the cave of Death, the infuriate spoiler. He tampered with his victim for awhile; and then, with one fell blow, levelled this beauteous scene of human happiness!

I know not if I could have borne
To see thy beauties fade;
The night that followed such a morn
Had worn a deeper shade;
The day without a cloud had past,
And thou wert lovely to the last,
Extinguish'd, not decay'd;
As stars that shoot along the sky,
Shine brightest as they fall from high.

BYRON.

Her Royal Highness was particularly anxious about the completion of this temple, and one day she visited it in company with Prince Leopold; and putting her head through the door-way, she inquired of the labourers who were working above, when they thought it would be finished. They answered, they supposed it would be rather more than two months. "There," said her Royal Highness, "I thought it would not be finished before." This was the last time her

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Royal Highness visited the spot previously to her confinement; and the view of it, after her decease, excited so many mournful reflections in the mind of Prince Leopold, that it was long before he could be induced to visit it. When completed, it is the intention of his Serene Highness to erect a pedestal in the middle, on which is to be placed a full length statue of the Princess Charlotte.

The secluded mode of life which the Princess Charlotte adopted at Claremont, and the steady and determined manner with which she resisted every attempt to induce her to become a party to any of the designs of the leading political factions of the day, could not fail in a certain degree to draw down upon her the resentment and private pique of the disappointed individuals, who hoped to make her influence the stepping-stone to the attainment of their own ambitious views. Hence at this time, the great and important discovery was made by certain individuals, that a life of seclusion was incompatible with the exalted rank which the Princess Charlotte filled, and that the nation had not voted to her an income of 60,000*l.* a year, to expend in books and flowers and erecting gewgaws in her park; on the contrary, that income had been granted to her to enable her to maintain a degree of splendor suitable to the heiress presumptive to the crown, and to live in the midst of the people over whom she was one day destined to reign; and by way of fully

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demonstrating the truth of that position, it was *most wisely* added, that the people of England were not like the natives of China, who are content to know that their sovereign lives, although it is not permitted for them to behold him. The aim of these individuals, in thus attempting to divert her Royal Highness from that dignified retirement, which from the most prudential motives she had chosen for herself, was too apparent to excite her indignation, and tended rather to confirm her in her favorite mode of life than to induce her to alter it. Independently of the cordial and ardent attachment which her Royal Highness felt for rural retirement, prudence and policy dictated to her the line of conduct which she had chosen; her acquaintance with ancient and modern history informed her, that the noblest characters which have adorned its pages were formed in retirement, where the first great lesson of self-government is taught, the acquisition of which is indispensable to those who are one day destined to govern others. The mind of the Princess Charlotte, had, by deep reflection, and a just comparison of the opinion of others, acquired a mode of thinking wholly original; from which arose that decided determination of action, for which she was so eminently distinguished. Those individuals, who are not accustomed to extend the range of their observations beyond a certain line of character, and consequently are unable to discover the main spring of an action,

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unless it comes immediately within their contracted powers of investigation, are generally prone, from the wayward disposition incident to human nature, to attach an artful or sinister motive to the deeds of others; and censure is thereby often heaped upon an agent, where applause ought to have been awarded. The Princess Charlotte, in adhering to that strict line of neutrality which she had marked out for herself, in all matters relating to the private or public interests of any of the individuals of the Royal Family, and in totally abstaining from all interference on the subjects of dispute between them, adopted a line of conduct which prudence would certainly have pointed out to her, and which policy on her part strictly demanded. Those, however, whose passions are not under the control of reason, condemn all the arguments which can be adduced by prudence or common sense; and influenced by the grossest partiality, they consider those to be their enemies, who will not immediately chime in with their own private views, or who will not grant them every assistance in promoting the interest of those whose cause they have, perhaps, mistakingly espoused. That strong differences have existed in the Royal Family, is a matter of too great notoriety to be treated with that delicacy, which the slightest shadow of a doubt of their existence would necessarily demand; and at this particular period they were increased by the continued refusal of an illustrious individual to

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receive the Duchess of Cumberland at her court; although to the public there did not appear any substantial grounds for that refusal. According to the trite maxim, that he who is not my friend must be my enemy, the partisans of the offended individual were not the least clamorous in their remarks on the line of conduct which the Princess Charlotte adopted; as she positively refused to throw her influence into the scale towards effecting a reconciliation, and thereby placing the discarded individual in that station to which her rank entitled her. The Princess Charlotte was not to be drawn from her neutrality, especially on a subject in which she felt no immediate interest, and interfering with which, she would have been brought into closer contact with certain individuals, with whom her particular station obliged her sometimes to associate, but whose company was certainly not the object of her choice. The cabal and intrigues of public life, met with no congeniality in the disposition of the Princess Charlotte. As to man, in the abstract, she knew him well, with all the virtues and vices of his nature; but on several points, the old cynic in his tub, did not entertain a more contemptible opinion of man in society, than the Princess Charlotte. She had been educated in a school, in which the knowledge of man is fundamentally acquired; and although she was too well aware that her rank and station in life precluded all idea of a complete seclusion from the world, yet,

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the conviction was ever predominant in her mind, that the happiness of a human being is increased by a dignified and, (what may appear rather paradoxical,) a social retirement from a general intercourse with the world. The sphere in which the Princess Charlotte moved was one of her own creating; it was a circle in which all the tender charities, which sweeten the bitter cup of life, were daily called into action. The heart, not ostentation, prompted the gift, destined to assuage the wants of others; and the delicacy and kindness with which it was offered doubled its value. Beyond that circle, her Royal Highness felt herself transplanted to a different climate; she looked around her, and beheld few or no objects, on which the affections of her heart could reasonably be placed, and which she had sufficient time or opportunity to study, to ascertain if they were worthy of her regard. She found, therefore, her happiness in retirement;—being in principle the genuine philanthropist, in action the perfect christian, it was her endeavour to divest the affliction of others of its poignancy, and the tear which flowed in secret was, by her hand, in secret wiped away.

In her Royal Highness were united those qualities which are calculated to interest the feelings, fix the attachment, rouse the enthusiasm, and command the respect of mankind. She possessed all the feminine charms that, by interesting men, bespeak their good opinion. In the most trying

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circumstances she proved herself superior to the dictates of a paltry ambition, and the miserable plea of political expediency; no persuasions could induce her to bestow her hand where her heart did not sanction the gift. For the short period in which she was a wife, she enjoyed all the happiness of which the married state is capable—unostentatious, retired, pure domestic bliss. The husband of her choice was truly worthy of her affection; and by his attention to her, when the absence of all her relatives had cast her wholly upon him for consolation and support, in her most trying and departing moments—he has earned a title to the gratitude of the British nation—a claim which they will ever recognise—a claim which will be handed down to posterity, as a sacred pledge. The example of conjugal felicity, and of the domestic virtues, thus set by her, whom the nation fondly regarded as its future Queen, gave the promise of happy days to come, when the dissipation of a court should not bestow a specious kind of sanction on profligacy of manners, nor afford a fashionable excuse for openly setting at nought the decencies of private life. The unshaken firmness with which the Princess adhered to a suffering parent proved that she possessed a mind which could not easily be warped from what she conceived to be right, nor be induced to abandon long-cherished principles and feelings. This trait of character, so invaluable, particularly to persons in her station, rendered her known attach-

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ment to the pure constitutional principles in which she was educated of incalculable importance to the people over whom she appeared destined one day to reign.—But all these fair prospects are shrouded by untimely darkness!—these flattering hopes are for ever blasted!—these fond anticipations are dashed to the earth!—and instead of the joyful anthem, "Unto us a child is born—unto us a son is given," the low funeral dirge has sounded in our ears; and we listened to the requiem for the death of two generations of princes in the short space of a few hours!

The dislike which the Princess Charlotte entertained for Camelford-House increased every time she visited it; and circumstances, which were at that time not publicly known, rendered it necessary that a town residence should be immediately provided for the illustrious couple, divested of those inconveniences which were the foundation of the complaint against Camelford-House, and which had such a preponderating influence on the decisions of the Princess Charlotte, that she rather chose to be without a town residence at all, than to be subject to even a temporary abode at Camelford-House. Orders were, in consequence, issued to the Board of Works to examine the various mansions which were then either to be let or sold, and to fix upon that which would be considered as the most appropriate for the residence of their Royal and Serene Highnesses. After a lapse of some time,

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Marlborough-House was selected, and a treaty was immediately entered into with the noble owner for the lease of it. Many difficulties, however, stood in the way of an arrangement relative to the letting of this family mansion. The Princess Charlotte wished to occupy it for a term of three years only, and the Duke was unwilling to part with it for a shorter period than five years. Whilst this discussion was pending, a particular circumstance occurred, which rendered it questionable whether her Royal Highness would accede to any proposition, and made the seclusion of Claremont doubly dear to her. In fact, her Royal Highness stated, "that the more she saw or heard of the world, the more forcibly was the conviction impressed upon her, that happiness was only to be found in retirement from it."

For the honor, the dignity of human nature, I would not have it thought that there lived the being, who, for the sake of paltry lucre or of pelf, could hire the minions of detraction, and send them forth with poisoned daggers to stab the heart of suffering innocence. Christian charity rises with indignation at the act, and the tear of sympathy falls over the afflicted mourner. The Princess Charlotte, during that year of her life, which may justly be called the year of her happiness, was doomed even to have that happiness imbittered by the unfortunate situation of her mother, and the continual reports which were industriously conveyed to her of her imprudencies.

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The base and infamous report of an illicit connexion with a foreigner had no sooner died away, having failed to make that impression in a certain quarter which it was intended to make, than the seams of the old wounds were again to be torn open by the appearance of a work, entitled "The Journal of an English Traveller; or remarkable Events and Anecdotes of the Princess of Wales, from 1814 to 1816." It professes to have been originally written, as it appears it was, in English; and is also said to have been translated into Italian, by B. D., (a very illustrious gentleman, no doubt, though we may not know him,) and into French, by C. G., (a member, we suppose, of the same family.) The account which the English author gives of himself, is this, that he was some person possessed (Query, with some satanic spirit?) by an irresistible desire to follow the footsteps, and observe the conduct of the Princess of Wales. "I took," says he, "so much interest in this employment, that I constituted myself a most strict and attentive observer of all her proceedings; nothing escaping me that could interest either the public or myself." This work was no sooner published, than by some unknown means, a copy of it was transmitted to the Princess Charlotte, as it was intended that the rank poison which it contained, should first operate in that quarter; and in the end produce those effects, for which this infamous publication was

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designed. Can it be for a moment doubtful that one of these effects was, to occasion a breach between the Princess Charlotte and her illustrious Father, when the tenor of the following passage is considered:—

"It was a short time after that an infamous plot was formed against the Princess of Wales. *It is not difficult to guess at its high origin.* Mr. William Burrell, son of one of the most distinguished personages of England, was at Milan at the time when the Princess was there also. Always wishing to have some English with her, she proposed to him to remain with her some months. He accompanied her Royal Highness in her journey to Mantua, Bologna, Ferrara, and Venice; but not feeling disposed to undertake a long sea voyage on account of his health, he left the Princess at Como, in the month of August, in the house of the Marquis of Villani, in the Borgo Vico. One of his domestics, called Whit, took upon him to propagate ridiculous and exaggerated stories of what passed in the house of her Royal Highness. Mr. Burrell went to Brussels; it was in the great inn at that town, that Whit spread stories of the Princess, in the most indecent and the lowest manner. These stories from the servant were carried to the *cynical Court of Pall Mall*, which gave rise to the idea of sending to Milan, Lord Charles Stuart, brother of Lord Castlereagh, minister at Vienna. Lord Stuart never presented

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himself to her Royal Highness, as it was his duty to do; but contracted a friendship with the Baron D'Omptdat, knight of Hanover, and formerly ambassador of Jerome Nap., King of Westphalia, to the court of Vienna; who bore his mortal ennui, and his disgrace with him into Italy. Drawn on by promises, he degraded himself by the infamous trade of a spy, and began to observe scrupulously the conduct of the Princess of Wales. Lord ———, minister of the cabinet of London, the confidant of the Prince Regent, seconded these contrivances and plots, which date from the month of September, 1815."

At this time her Royal Highness was ready to set out to undertake her journey, but she felt herself greatly alarmed at hearing from the police, when she returned to Milan, that she was surrounded by spies in her own house. The Baron D'Omptdat, who was at their head, had tried to corrupt the persons in the service of the Princess during her absence, but they all rejected with horror the propositions and promises which he made to them.

What must have been the feelings of the Princess Charlotte, on reading the above and similar passages in this work, in which the ministers of her Royal Father, with his concurrence and support, were represented as suborning unprincipled individuals, with a view of discovering some flaw in the conduct of her mother, by which, perhaps, her life might be affected; and when it was sub-

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sequently stated that this Baron D'Omptdat had bribed her *piqueur*, Maurice Credi, to procure him false keys of the apartments in which the Princess of Wales slept, for purposes, which only the most infamous wretch could undertake? Must it not have roused every noble and generous feeling in the breast of the Princess Charlotte; and was it not calculated to make her deprecate the instigators of such atrocious proceedings? Her Royal Highness, was, however, well aware, that in all reports of this nature, the facts are often exaggerated, according as the views and interests of the relator are concerned. But after making every allowance for that exaggeration, she could not but feel convinced, that some foul and infamous proceedings were carrying on against her mother; although the high and just opinion which she entertained of the honor of her illustrious Father, would not, for a moment, allow her to admit the thought that he could so far degrade himself, as to become the instrument of surrounding her defenceless and unsuspecting mother with a horde of spies, for the purpose of effecting her downfall and her ruin. Viewing, however, the whole affair in the most favorable light which circumstances would admit; and, after making every allowance for the anonymous manner in which those statements reached this country, the main points of which were, however, in some degree confirmed by intelligence received in private letters; her Royal Highness could not

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wholly divest herself of her fears for the safety of her unfortunate mother; and they contributed, in no small degree to throw a gloom over that happiness, which she was enjoying in her domestic circle at Claremont.

The tender assiduities, the unwearied attention, and the anxious solicitude which were manifested by her beloved husband, even in the most trivial points by which her happiness could be confirmed or increased, operated as an antidote to those base and insidious attempts which were made to disturb her tranquillity, and to alienate her affections from that quarter where they were most particularly due. His Serene Highness was too deeply skilled in the intricate machinery of the human mind, not to know that a diversity of occupation, and an adjustment of objects even of a trifling nature, impel the feelings into a different track, and prevent the mind from being absorbed in the contemplation of any individual circumstance which is attended with regret and sorrow. He, therefore, formed for her Royal Highness fresh sources of amusement; and one succeeded to the other in such a pleasing variety, that her mind by degrees discarded every unpleasant impression, and attached itself only to those objects from which pleasure or satisfaction could be extracted.

On the 15th of April the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold had a grand dinner at Claremont-House; but it was remarked that none of the leading political characters of the day were in-

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vited; the party consisting wholly of those distinguished individuals who were especially honored with the esteem and regard of her Royal Highness. Music was the chief source of the evening amusement, and her Royal Highness played several fine concertos on the piano-forte. On this occasion it was suggested to her Royal Highness, that from the brilliancy of her execution, and the taste and science which she displayed in the more difficult branches of music, some pieces of a perfectly original nature might be expected from her, where she to employ her talents in harmonic composition. Her Royal Highness paid little or no attention to this suggestion, and replied, with all the *naïveté* for which she was so conspicuous, "When my country will no longer support me, I'll then become a composer of music; but I am afraid I should create more discord in the world than harmony." It is, however, certain that her Royal Highness profited by the hint, and attempted the composition of several pleasing airs, which evidently display the skilful hand of the master. By the kindness of a lady, to whom we cannot sufficiently acknowledge our obligations, for many particulars concerning the private life of the Princess, which place her Royal Highness in the most amiable point of view, and which could not have been obtained from any other source, we are now enabled to present to the public an original musical composition of her

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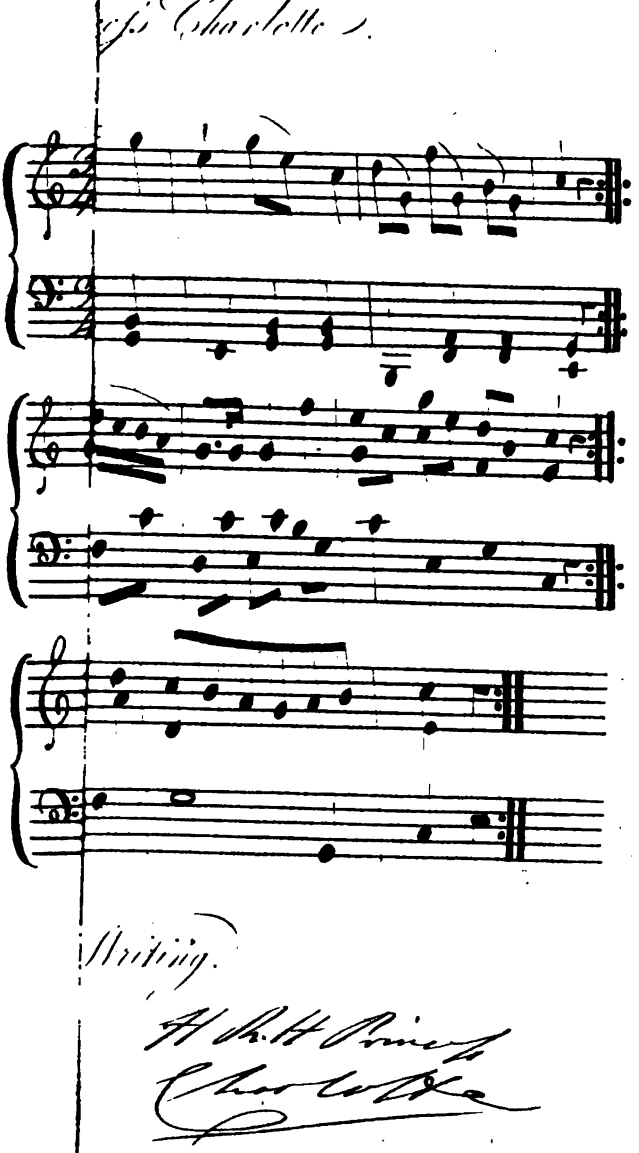
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Royal Highness, with the fac-simile of her writing, the original of which has been confidentially intrusted to us. Of the intrinsic value of this memento of her Royal Highness, any recommendation on our part would be superfluous; it is but another proof, if any were wanting of the comprehensive and versatile powers of her mind; and our regret increases that such a mind should have been hastily snatched away from us at the moment, when it was beginning to display itself in its fullest vigour.

On the 17th the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold arrived at Camelford-House from Claremont, the object of the Prince being to attend the Regent's levee, which was to have been holden on that day. The postponement of the levee had, however, only been announced in one evening newspaper of the 16th, and Carlton-House was thronged the whole of the day with the arrival of persons who intended to pay their respects to the Prince Regent, or who were to have been introduced to him. Some gentlemen came from Brighton and other distant towns with addresses, and obtained from the populace in the streets, who made themselves merry at their disappointment, the not very gracious epithet of the Prince's April fools.

The Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold dined at Camelford-House, and received visits from the Duke of Cumberland; the Countess Lieven, and other distinguished individuals. The

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Prince and Princess afterwards inspected, in the Court-yard of Camelford-House, a chariot, which had been fitted up according to their taste, previously to its being embarked for Vienna, as a present to Prince Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg Saalfeld. Prince Leopold went to visit the Duchess of Cumberland, attended by Baron Hardenbroke. Soon after four o'clock the Princess and Prince, having learnt the postponement of the levee, left Camelford-House for Claremont.

The Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold were, in a few days, destined to undergo another disappointment of a similar nature. Wednesday, April 23d, being St. George's day, it was selected as the day on which the birth of the Prince Regent was to be celebrated, and a drawing-room and other splendors were of course appointed. A sudden indisposition of the Queen, which occurred in the course of the preceding night, prevented the drawing-room from taking place. The Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold were preparing for their departure from town, when the intelligence of the Queen's indisposition reached them, and the Princess Charlotte immediately despatched an express from Claremont, directed to the Princess Elizabeth, requesting to be informed of the state of the Queen.

It was at first supposed that the drawing-room would take place, and that the Princesses would receive the company in their royal mother's name; this idea, however, was, after due deliberation,

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abandoned, on the ground that it was indecorous to be holding a gala court on the same floor where the Queen was confined by indisposition. On the other hand, it was felt that the postponement of the court would produce considerable disappointment to those who had looked forward to this new mode of celebrating the Regent's birthday. These different suggestions caused considerable delay; and it was not until nine o'clock, that it was determined to postpone the drawing-room, and an express was immediately sent off to Claremont with this determination.

A circumstance, however, transpired in a few days, which, in some measure, proved that the indisposition of the Queen was not the only cause which prevented the drawing-room from taking place. The refusal to admit an illustrious lady at court excited the displeasure of a foreign potentate; and a strong remonstrance, in favor of that lady, had considerable influence on this occasion. There is a negative manner of attaching guilt or moral turpitude to an individual, which is more galling and distressing to the feelings than an open and bold avowal. The effect of personal resentment is thus openly displayed, whilst the cause is kept in secret; and justice certainly demanded, in the case of this illustrious lady, that the cause should be substantiated, on which the refusal of her being received at court was founded. "Prove me guilty, or let me enjoy the benefit of innocence," is an injunction founded on

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the true principles of every moral law; and every personal resentment or private pique ought to yield to the justification of that character, on which, to suit a private purpose, an unjust and ignominious stain has been thrown.

The mystery of the refusal of this lady at court has not yet been solved; and it is believed that it is definitively postponed, until a certain event takes place.

On the 30th of April, Prince Leopold arrived in his travelling carriage at Carlton-House, and remained a considerable time with the Regent. At this interview, it was stated, that his Royal Highness was first apprized of the interesting situation in which his beloved daughter was then unequivocally declared to be; and his Royal Highness expressed his joy on the occasion in terms which conferred the highest honor on his feelings as a father, a prince, and a man. After leaving the Prince Regent, his Serene Highness proceeded to the Queen's Palace, to pay his respects to her Majesty, and from thence to Gloucester-House. Prince Leopold left town in the evening for Claremont.

Friday the 2d of May, being the anniversary of her marriage, her Royal Highness, notwithstanding her determination to abstain in future from all crowded assemblies, invited a select party to celebrate the happy day. It was commemorated by a dinner and concert; and the principal guests were the Duke and Duchess of York, the

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Austrian Ambassador, the Bavarian minister, Lord and Lady Castlereagh, Marquis of Anglesea, Earl of Lauderdale, Lord Ashbrook, the Count and Countess of Lieven, Lady Harrowby, Lord Burghersh, Lady Susan Ryder, Sir Robert and Lady Gardiner, Baron de Just, Madame de Laohan, Miss Mercer Elphinstone, Dr. Short, &c.

The description of a single ball or dinner in high life may be strictly applied to every one. There is little in them to interest the feelings or to excite a generous sentiment in the heart. The real charms of hospitality are seldom witnessed, for the coldness of reserve, and the stiff forms of ceremony and etiquette, have no homogeneity with the warm glow of friendship, or the cheering effusions of reciprocal esteem. The general character, however, of parties in high life does not apply to that which was assembled to celebrate the auspicious union of the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, on this its first anniversary; and I am enabled to state, from the information of one of the party, that at no period of the life of the Princess Charlotte, did her happiness appear to be more completely confirmed than on this day. To say that the illustrious couple were happy, is, in fact, saying that they deserved happiness; a truth universally acknowledged by all who observed their daily attention to the wants of their inferiors; their active charity, founded on a just but liberal economy; their constant but unostentatious exertion of their means

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of usefulness; and, lastly, their perfect attachment to each other. Such conduct does not require the addition of royal splendor to excite our admiration; but it was a high satisfaction to an enlightened and moral nation, to see its future rulers actuated by such just notions of the real grounds of happiness and of greatness.

The storm, which was destined in its desolating course to level this beauteous fabric of sublunary happiness, was then rising slowly on the horizon; the eye could scarcely distinguish it, its murmurs had not yet reached the ear. With the bold front of conscious innocence, and firmly relying on the wisdom and goodness of an almighty Power, the destined victim heeded not its advances; till on a sudden, burst forth the dread tornado, and swept away the hopes of England! The Princess left her earthly crown to inherit a heavenly one! Her soul has fled from this sickly scene of mortal existence, to reap in immortality never-fading joy!

The bounds of the park of Claremont were now seldom passed by her Royal Highness in her morning excursions; and, indeed, it possessed within itself those peculiar charms, which could rivet the attention even of any ordinary mind, much more one of the exalted stamp of the Princess Charlotte's. Disliking the forms, the frippery and the folly of courts, she sought retirement as her paradise below; and in the company of a beloved husband, she experienced the calm enjoyment of domestic bliss, untainted by care,

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unalloyed by disappointment. The morning saw her happy in herself, happy in her consort, happy in her home: the evening sun beheld nothing within her circle to tarnish the honor of the woman, or to disgrace the dignity of the crown. Blessed by nature with a vigorous understanding; with a mind too firm to be misled by flattery, too great to find pleasure in the noisy nonsense and insipid fascinations of fashionable life, too virtuous to participate in its vices, too free to love that slavery in others which she hated herself; a Briton in principle, a Briton in action; she would have been the glory of her country, and the honour of her age.—How dark and mysterious are the ways of Providence! Who can tell why virtue, in the bloom of spring, is so often suddenly snatched away; whilst vice, full blown in iniquity, creeps through its period, till the decay of nature extinguishes the nuisance and the crime? Who can tell why this dignified Lady, who would have been the most royal of mortal sovereigns, should be torn away from the world, which she could have conquered to her purposes with the weapons of justice and of virtue? Who can tell why this Benefactress of the human race must no longer bestow her bounty; no longer make the indigent smile, or wipe away the tears of the afflicted? Why she must no longer dispense her blessings we know not.—But she is gone for ever!—The tears of the people will long continue

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to moisten her tomb, and their loud lamentations testify their sorrow.

Among the many beautiful traits which adorned the character of the Princess Charlotte, was the warm interest which she took in the fate of the female convicts, under sentence of death in Newgate. Immediately on being informed that any female was sentenced to die, her Royal Highness set on foot an inquiry, not only into the circumstances of the case, but also into the character which the unfortunate convict bore previously to her condemnation. Though a strict lover of virtue, her Royal Highness was not one of those stiff-starched moralists, who turn away with abhorrence from a fallen one of their own sex, and thereby close every avenue to repentance and reformation. She knew the great cause of the moral turpitude of the female character; that the inexperienced and unsuspicious girl yields to the snares and enticements of her seducer; and that the first barrier of virtue being overstepped, irretrievable ruin too generally follows.

The genuine concern which the Princess Charlotte took in the fate of female convicts, was first excited by a petition, which was presented to her in 1812, on behalf of a young woman, by name Frances Sage, then under sentence of death; and her individual case made such a strong impression upon the feelings of her Royal Highness, that she hesitated not a moment

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in laying the petition at the feet of her august Father. The criminal was pardoned, and her Royal Highness enjoyed the heartfelt satisfaction of afterwards learning, that she had reformed her mode of life, and was become an excellent member of society. From this period, her Royal Highness never rejected any petition from a female convict; and many were saved by her influence, though they remained ignorant of the person to whom they were indebted for their life, and their favourable return into the bosom of society.

The following is a copy of the original petition, which was presented to her Royal Highness. She was often known to peruse it, and it now lies folded amongst her private papers in an envelope, on which is written, "There is more joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, than over ninety and nine just men;" and on the other side are the words, "He, who with repentance is not satisfied, is nor of heaven nor earth."

"May it please your Royal Highness to give a few moments attention to the most humble advocate that ever volunteered in the cause of an afflicted family; and as I seek for no reward, except the hallowed consolation of success, let your indulgence be proportional to my zeal.

"The interest which the public prints have taken in the fate of Frances Sage, a young English woman, now under sentence of death in Newgate, induced me yesterday to visit a dwelling which her crime had made desolate; and at least, to pour the healing balm of condolence upon the wounds of her distracted friends.

"A finished picture of the scene, I witnessed, must not agonize your Royal bosom. Every thing proclaimed distress and

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desolation; one tear was forced from her parents' eyes only to make room for another, and they looked as if, at that moment, they had experienced a most melancholy confiscation of all their family honours.

"I found that the same breeze on which your welcome voice first floated on the ears of a joyful people was burthened with the cries of this unhappy girl, for she is just your age. That the innocence of her youth had been assailed by the artifices of an accomplished villain, who had deserted her in the moment of her utmost need; that she had never before been guilty of a crime, except when she submitted to the wiles of her seducer; that an ignominious death awaited her; that no effort was making for her safety, and that she was enveloped in contrition.

"Smooth and sudden is the descent from virtue. When the despoiler of her honour had induced the first step towards degradation, it was easy for him to coerce a second; but there is an elasticity in the human mind which enables it to rebound even after a fall more desperate than her's. In such an effort, O Royal Lady, assist her, and let the harsh gratings of her prison hinge be drowned in the glad tidings of your Father's mercy. The eloquence of a Trojan Monarch gained, in a hostile camp, the body of his devoted Hector; and the force of Royal advocacy was evinced at the memorable siege of Calais, when an enraged and stern King had firmly set his heart upon the execution of St. Pierre. Where then is the difficulty to be apprehended when an only Daughter, and a nation's hope, asks from a generous Prince and an indulgent Father, the life of a fallen but repenting woman? I have known the exquisite luxury of saving life, and announcing pardon; and I beseech you to lay such holy consolation to your heart, by raising your powerful voice in the advocacy of human frailty; snatch her not only from untimely death, but also from the contagion which surrounds her, from the infectious aggregation of the vices of a prison, where precept and example are rivals in the cultivation of depravity.

"I humbly ask it for her parents, because it will heal their

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bleeding hearts; and for her sea-beaten brother, for it will strengthen his arm against the enemies of your House; I solicit it for the empire, because she is a reclaimed subject; I ask it for the honor of that Throne which you are destined to adorn; and I implore it for the sake of that God whose favourite attribute is mercy.

"Grant then this humble prayer, illustrious favourite of my Prince; and may the 'Divinity, which hedges Thrones,' may 'He who wears the crown immortally,' bless you with long, long life, and end it happy. "JOSEPH."

On the 6th of May the Princess Charlotte was gratified with a visit from her illustrious Father, who, after partaking of an early dinner, returned to town in the evening. Some circumstances, connected with the interesting situation of the Princess Charlotte, induced her Royal Highness to spend a few days in town; and accordingly on the 16th, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold left Claremont for Camelford-House, where they arrived to dinner. On the following day they received a visit from the Duke of York, and in the afternoon they visited the Queen. Prince Leopold afterwards called on the Prince Regent, the Duke of Clarence, the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland; and then returned to Camelford-House to dine. In the evening their Royal and Serene Highnesses went to the opera, to hear Paer's opera of *l'Agnese*, and to see the new ballet, called *Zulica, ou les Peruviens*. The Princess Charlotte was observed to be, on this evening, in the happiest flow of spirits, and she made her remarks on some of the scenes of the opera, with

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no common critical severity. When Hubert, in the second act, entered with a pipe in his mouth, her Royal Highness turned archly to Prince Leopold, and said, "That must be in compliment to you, for I am sure it is not conformable to English manners;" and when towards the conclusion, Hubert practises a joke on Pasquale, by catching his fingers in his snuff-box, her Royal Highness exclaimed, "Why certainly I am mistaken, I thought I was at the Opera-House, but I find I am at Astley's. Such a trick might be tolerated in a pantomime; but in serious opera, it violates the decorum of the scene."

On the Monday following the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold paid their respects to the Queen on the return of her birth-day; and in the evening the Prince Regent gave a grand entertainment at Carlton-House in honor of the day. The whole suite of state rooms were thrown open upon the occasion; there was no supper, but ices and confectionary were supplied in the octagon room. The invitation cards intimated that it would be a dress party to meet the Queen, and the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold were amongst those who were invited; but they preferred, for particular reasons, to leave town in the afternoon for Claremont, rather than undergo the ceremony and bustle of a court party. Those were not wanting, who ascribed a different motive to this refusal of the Princess Charlotte, to the invitation of her august Father to meet his

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Mother; and all the changes of the differences in the Royal Family were again rung in the ears of the public. It is, however, certain that this refusal on the part of the Princess Charlotte, had, on this occasion, no reference whatever to any existing differences between herself and any branch of the Royal Family; but originated solely in the resolution which her Royal Highness had formed, of seceding altogether for a time from fashionable life, and devoting herself entirely to rural pursuits. Her royal Father had also intimated his intention of visiting her during the week at Claremont, which his Royal Highness fulfilled, in company with Lord Keith, on Thursday the 22d. The Regent returned to town in the evening, and Lord Keith on the following day.

That noble trait in the character of the Princess Charlotte, namely, the warm and active interest which her Royal Highness always took in its commercial prosperity, and the encouragement which she gave to its manufactures, will ever endear her to the British nation. In Claremont-House nothing foreign was to be seen; and her Royal Highness constantly remarked, that she beheld ingenuity sufficient in her own country, to satisfy the most scrupulous taste, and to provide for every reasonable want. In every thing which related to the encouragement of the arts, her Royal Highness was the true supporter of her country. Much as she admired the Dresden and Sévres china-ware, she

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would not admit a single article of it, either ornamental or useful, into her house. "I would rather," said her Royal Highness, "eat a slice of good English roast beef off a coarse English plate, than off the finest china which the foreign manufactories ever produced." Her Royal Highness was at one period of her life very partial to selecting the most beautiful specimens of English ornamental china-ware, and her collection of vases was the most beautiful which can be imagined. The Princess Elizabeth once sent a beautiful vase, as a present to the Princess Charlotte; and in return, the latter sent a curious tea-pot to her royal aunt, who has been long known to possess a great predilection for that domestic utensil. In the spout of the tea-pot was found a small roll of paper, which, on being opened, was discovered to contain the four following lines:—

"Your vase, dear aunt, I have just received,
"For which receive a tea-pot;
"Nor shall I be, in truth, deceived,
"If both should go to pot."

It was also highly honorable to the Princess Charlotte and to Prince Leopold, that during the distress of the silk manufacturers in the spring of 1817, they instantly, in order to afford relief to the suffering poor, issued their orders for British silks, which amounted to above 1,000*l.*, the major part of which was sent in presents to their re-

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lations abroad. As it was the intention of her Royal Highness to fit up one of the apartments at Claremont-House in a manner truly *nouvelle*, but which had been postponed for reasons of an economical nature, her Royal Highness, discarding every personal consideration, resolved to put her intentions into immediate execution; and a very large order was consequently given for yellow silk, which formed the ground-work of the plan which her Royal Highness had in agitation. This apartment now forms one of the most beautiful *coup d'œil*, which fancy "even in her most lavish mood" could desire; and it will long remain a memento of the exquisite taste and skill which her Royal Highness possessed, and an irrefragable testimony of her truly patriotic spirit.

In distributing her presents of the superior kinds of British manufacture amongst the reigning Princes of Germany and their immediate connexions, her Royal Highness had a double aim in view: whilst she was giving support to the distressed manufactures of her own country, she hoped that she was paving the way to the introduction of English manufactures into foreign courts; and by their adoption at once in the highest circles, to give the stamp of fashion to them, which could not but ultimately be productive of the most beneficial consequences to the manufacturing interests of the kingdom. The rage which pervaded England at that period for every thing

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that was French, required some strong and powerful influence, in order to avert the injury which thereby accrued to the manufacturing interests of this country; and the Princess Charlotte resolved to be one amongst the foremost to check the growing evil, and by the powerful force of example, in the highest station of life, to give the prevalence of fashion to the efforts of native industry. But laudable and patriotic as were the motives of her Royal Highness, she soon discovered, that, as far as the adoption of fashionable equipments extended, in reference to the manufactures of her own country, she stood almost alone and unsupported. The evil had crept through every class of society, even from the throne, to the lowest rank of life in which fashion is supposed to maintain its sway. An Englishwoman at heart, the Princess Charlotte shewed herself an Englishwoman in her exterior—no Frenchified gew-gaw was purchased to decorate her person; an Irish tabbinet, a Glasgow muslin, or a Norwich bombazin, was the most splendid attire to which the heiress of the British throne aspired; and, on a memorable occasion, when certain persons of a very elevated station in life, were detected in the practice of smuggling some valuable articles of French manufacture into the kingdom, her Royal Highness clapped her hands, exclaiming, "I am glad of it, I am glad of it; I hope they will be made to pay for their French fashions." During the residence of her Royal Highness at Claremont, a beautiful India shawl had been seized by the Custom-House officers, which was destined for the Marchioness of H——, and which was

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valued at 3,000 guineas. It was chiefly composed of pearls, and being considered as an appropriate apparel for royalty, the purchase of it was offered to the Princess Charlotte. "In the first place," answered her Royal Highness, "I cannot afford the money; and in the second, I never will connive at an infraction of the laws of the country." It is seldom that two persons can be said to live on friendly or intimate terms, whose line of conduct is in diametrical opposition; and as the Princess Charlotte, on the most patriotic principles, openly discountenanced every adoption of foreign articles in her household or her dress, it was not to be wondered at, that she raised up against herself a host of enemies, who construed her hatred of French fashions into affectation, and her steady and uniform exertions in favour of the British manufacturer, into a love of popularity. The Princess Charlotte paid little or no attention to these effusions of private pique and malice; but, conscious to herself of the uprightness of her conduct, she smiled at their impotency; and, when informed of any malicious report afloat against her, she coolly replied in the words of Plato, "I will so regulate my conduct, that I will prove the reports of my enemies to be false."

These circumstances brought her so fully before the public, in a patriotic point of view, and into such just appreciation, that one and all, with pride and exultation, hailed her as a genuine Englishwoman. Her very failings were such, as not only not to lessen our dutiful affection for her, but to carry back our recollection to one of the brightest periods of our history, and to

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lead us to compare her with the great queen Elizabeth. In common with Elizabeth, she possessed a sound and vigorous understanding, great firmness, and a lively wit; but she also possessed qualities to which Elizabeth had no pretensions,—singleness of mind, openness of manners, and the most genuine tenderness of heart that ever warmed a female breast. Her eye would beam with equal fires, whenever indignation or a sense of injury called forth the generous emotions of her lofty spirit; but, unlike that of the haughty queen, it has daily turned with more than woman's mildness, upon objects of compassion; Elizabeth was cold, suspicious, unforgiving: the Princess Charlotte was affectionate, generous, confiding. The former would upon occasions be generous, the latter was invariably conciliatory and full of benignity. In the late Princess there was no stately condescension, no ceremonious affability; but her natural goodness of heart was ever displaying itself with the most sincere ebullitions of benevolence, which triumphed in the luxury of doing good. She was once heard to declare that she was the happiest woman in the kingdom; and she deserved to be so, for much of the happiness she enjoyed was but the reflection of that which she had herself diffused.

The most genial season of the year was now arrived, and the scenery of Claremont appeared in its fullest beauty. The Princess Charlotte now spent very little of her time in the interior of the house; but having finished her regular morning occupations, she immediately hastened into the grounds, or repaired to that part of the park in which the hay-

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makers were employed; and she would sometimes take a fork or rake, and be as busy as the busiest of them; and then she would take some of the hay into her hand and give it to her poney, or to the horse on which Prince Leopold was riding. She seemed indeed a being almost shut out from the cares of the world, and living in a state of Utopian felicity.

The library was, at this pleasant season of the year, the favorite apartment of her Royal Highness; indeed nothing can be more sweetly interesting than the view which it affords. On the left are to be seen the finely-wooded grounds of Claremont, in which the diversity of foliage, interspersed with so much art, forms the most delightful shades, and on the right the view stretches over the vale of Windsor, until it is terminated by the blue distant hills of Buckinghamshire. The inequality of the grounds of Claremont are admirably adapted for picturesque scenery; and the beautiful sheets of water, which here and there present themselves to the eye, gently undulated by the passing breeze, and on which the white plumage of the swan forms a pleasing contrast with the dark foliage which skirts the banks, all convey the most pleasing images to the mind, and lead it into the track of useful thought and meditation. A circular flight of steps leads on the outside to one of the entrances to the library, which, forming a basement at the top, was filled with pots of various evergreen and deciduous plants; and between the windows, frames were erected, on which geraniums, myrtles, and other green-house plants were placed. An awning

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was thrown over the whole, and in the evening her Royal Highness usually sat beneath it, and with a book in her hand, which she would often read to her beloved husband, the hours would pass quickly by, not marked by *ennui*, nor the usual concomitants of fashionable life.

The arrangements which were at this time making, in regard to the occupation of Marlborough-House, for their Royal and Serene Highnesses, required their presence in town; and, accordingly, on Monday, the 23d, they arrived at Camelford-House from Claremont. The only obstacle which then existed to the final settlement of the business, was the term for which the lease was to be granted. The Princess Charlotte, instead of having it for a limited term, now wished to have it for the whole term for which the Duke himself held the property; but some legal quibble was raised upon the subject, as to the actual period for which the Duke could grant the lease; and, until some old musty parchments were examined, which could not possibly be done but at the convenience of the parties, which there was no immediate prospect of taking place, the illustrious couple were to be kept in suspense, which is by no means an uncommon case in this country, in matters which are to be determined by the glorious uncertainty of the law.

On the day subsequent to the arrival of the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold in town, they received visits from some select friends, after which they visited the Queen and the Princess Elizabeth, and in the evening they honored the opera with their presence.

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On the following morning the Duke of Gloucester paid a friendly visit to the royal pair, and remained with them for some time. The Duchess of Gloucester was prevented accompanying the Duke by indisposition. About three o'clock the Prince and Princess drove to Carlton-House, to pay their respects to the Prince Regent, with whom they remained till five. The Princess Charlotte was shown some beautiful or-moulu candelabras and other costly ornaments which had lately arrived from France, the workmanship of which was much extolled by her Royal Highness; but turning round to one of the ladies who accompanied her, she said, in a low voice, "I should like them better in the Thuilleries at Paris."

After leaving Carlton-House they drove to York-House, and having remained about an hour with the Duchess of York, returned to Camelford-House to dinner.

It having been notified in the gazette that her Majesty would hold a drawing-room on the 26th, Prince Leopold resolved to remain in town to attend it. From the excessive heat of the weather, it was not considered prudent for the Princess Charlotte, in her interesting situation, to expose herself to the effects of a crowded room, and the other fatiguing ceremonies which are ever the attendant of a royal drawing-room; her Royal Highness, therefore, took the opportunity of visiting some of her select friends, which was infinitely more gratifying to her feelings than sidling about in a hoop in a crowded drawing-room on a sultry day in June. On the return of Prince

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Leopold from attending the Queen's drawing-room, he and his royal consort received a visit from the Duke of York, and after dinner they left town for Claremont.

A very particular intimacy had subsisted for some time between the Princess Charlotte and Lady Susan Ryder, the eldest daughter of the Earl of Harrowby. The marriage of this lady with Lord Ebrington was shortly to take place, and her Royal Highness made her a present of a Brussels lace dress, of the value of 300*l.*, in which her ladyship was to be married. This circumstance was no sooner made public, than an outcry was immediately raised by a certain party, on the seemingly great inconsistency in the actions of the Princess Charlotte; and her patriotic spirit began to be called in question, because, openly rejecting all foreign articles of dress for the decoration of her own person, she made a present of an expensive foreign dress to another. It is as impossible to prevent a mongrel cur from barking, as to check the loquacity of certain people; and especially individuals of a particular description, who, without possessing the powers of the alchymist, can make something out of nothing; and rather than not make that something, will hatch a spurious brood of lies, and send them into the world as the genuine offspring of truth.

> There are a set of men, whose visages
> Do cream and mantle like a standing pond
> And do a wilful stillness entertain,
> With purpose to be drest in an opinion
> Of wisdom, gravity, profound conceit,

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As who should say, I am Sir Oracles,
And when I ope my lips let no dog bark.

The charge which was in this instance brought against the Princess Charlotte of tergiversation, happened, however, not to have the slightest foundation in truth; and had her base detractors sifted the business a little more profoundly, they would have discovered, that the present of a foreign dress to Lady Susan Ryder, had its very foundation in consistency of action, and ought to have excited their commendation instead of their puny censure.

The dress, about which so much was said at this period, had, in reality, been in the possession of the Princess Charlotte for some time; and consistently with her determination, not only to reject all useless splendor in apparel, but to confine herself to articles of the produce and manufacture of this country, her Royal Highness gave that away, which it was inconsistent with her principles to wear. It is very easy to censure the actions of others, and to attach an erroneous motive to them, according to the warped or crooked understanding of the criticising spectator; but it is not so easy, nor so common to bestow applause, as that presupposes in ourselves a certain degree of excellence, and a consciousness of right and wrong, which very seldom fall to the lot of those, who set themselves up as the arbiters of the actions of others, and who presume to dictate the course which those actions should pursue.

There cannot be a greater proof of the attention

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which the Princess Charlotte paid to all matters in which economy and the expenditure of her income were concerned, than in the choice of her establishment at Claremont, the extent of which scarcely exceeded that of some of the wives of our nobility, and which fell short, very far short, of what the presumptive heiress to the British throne might, consistently with her station, be entitled to maintain. It consisted only of

Lady Emily Murray, } Ladies of the Bedchamber.
Lady John Thynne, }
Mrs. Campbell, Privy Purse.
Miss Coates, Maid of Honor.
Hon. Charles Percy, } Chamberlains.
Colonel Addenbrook, }
Two Equerries, and a resident Physician.

This establishment is not mentioned in the Red Book at all; and when it is compared with some others which that book contains, the contrast must appear very striking, and may be adduced as another convincing proof of the little importance which her Royal Highness attached to exterior shew and splendor.

The Prince Leopold having been appointed colonel of the 5th, or Princess Charlotte of Wales's, regiment of dragoon guards, and that regiment being stationed at this time at Ipswich, and it being the wish of his Serene Highness to bring his regiment to the highest effective state of discipline, a residence in the vicinity of that town was sought after; and Rendlesham Hall

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was fixed upon, which his Serene Highness intended to take for two years.

A strong objection to even a temporary residence from Claremont was, however, raised by the situation of the Princess Charlotte, whose *accouchement* was now considered by her professional attendant, as likely to take place in October; and it was, therefore, determined to relinquish the idea of removing into Suffolk, until that important event was over *.

The second and *last* visit which the Queen paid to Claremont, was on the 29th July. Her Majesty was accompanied by the Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, and a lady in waiting. An early dinner had been prepared for her Majesty, of which having partaken, the royal party returned to Windsor.

An offer was at this time made by an illustrious individual to the Princess Charlotte, to give up Buckingham-House to her Royal Highness during her accouchement, as a residence far less exposed to noise

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* Circumstances, even of a trivial nature, if happily seized upon, often give an insight into the national character, which could not be obtained with greater truth and precision by the most elaborate study or the most profound investigation. Whilst the English were phlegmatically awaiting the birth of an heir to the crown, by the Princess Charlotte, the French were in a similar situation, looking for an heir from the Duchess of Berri. The English would ring their bells and fire their cannon on the event taking place, and after nine days, some other subject would supersede it; but, the French, not only intended to fire their cannon, but they had twenty new theatrical pieces in readiness to appear immediately after the accouchement, one of which was entitled—*Est-ce une fille? Est-ce un garçon?*

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than Camelford-House, as well as nearer to the great officers of state, who must be summoned upon the occasion. This offer was, however, declined on the part of her Royal Highness, as she had already determined that her accouchement should take place at Claremont; and, on one occasion, when she openly declared her intention of continuing at that residence, her Royal Highness was asked, how the attendance of the state officers could be procured at such a distance from town, and, perhaps, at a moment's notice? "Let them manage that as well as they can," answered her Royal Highness, "I cannot go to the state officers, and, therefore, the state officers must come to me."

One of the last occasions when her Royal Highness appeared in public was at a grand fête given by the Countess of Cardigan, in honor of the Prince Regent's birth-day. The grounds about Lady Cardigan's house, besides the natural advantages of a fine situation, are adorned with all the beauties which the skill of the planter or the florist can bestow. These grounds were destined to be the scene of the entertainment; here tents were pitched, tables were arranged, and platforms erected. The unfavorable state of the weather at one time seemed to threaten a complete disappointment to the amusements of the day, but the sun, breaking out suddenly, soon dissipated all apprehensions. As, however, it would have been imprudent to incur any risk, the grand drawing-room was fitted up for the dinner-party of the Queen, the Regent, and the Royal Family.

The company began to arrive soon after two o'clock.

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The Royal Family began to arrive at three. The Prince Regent and the Queen came last, and were received with loud huzzas, as also were the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, who were in an open carriage. As soon as the Regent and the Queen had reached the drawing-room, the different guests were admitted to pay the customary compliments on the birth-day. The ceremony being over, the Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold retired without stopping to dinner, and immediately returned to Claremont. The situation of her Royal Highness rendered her early secession from a crowded company absolutely necessary.

The retirement at Claremont appeared to be increasingly congenial to the taste and inclinations of the Princess Charlotte; for the happiness of her Royal Highness never appeared so complete as when she was in the midst of her domestic circle. Among the various points of view, in which it is our pride and study to contemplate the Princess Charlotte, and to point her out to the admiration of the people of England, we delight to speak of her character in domestic life. A King or Queen, as such, may diffuse a vast portion of happiness throughout society, by the just and conscientious exercise of power; but upon mankind at large, the sovereign cannot well act as an *example*, except through the medium of those qualities which are applicable to private life, and useful in humble stations. The dissolute manners of some persons, among the upper classes in this country, require no ordinary antidote to oppose their corrupting

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influence. The law, though armed with peculiar terrors, is evaded by artful vice, or defied by audacious infamy. Fashion tolerates and upholds her disciples; and timid virtue withdraws into herself, or ventures on the stream, only to struggle, yield, and perish. Our unspotted Princess, in the lovely purity of her conjugal and maternal character, and in the splendor and pre-eminence of her constitutional throne, would, with the partner of her virtuous affections, have herself supplied the defect of law, and reclaimed the licentiousness of fashion. Every wife would have gazed upon her as a bright example of those duties, whose performance rewards itself and constitutes the chief blessing of society. The loss of such a model, in such an age, may be a subject of lamentation to our children's children.

In her truly dignified retirement, her Royal Highness amused herself with the arrangement of a number of tokens of fond remembrance; and she directed instructions to be sent to a German artist of celebrity, residing in this country, to execute a snuff-box composed of *papier mâchée*, on the lid of which her portrait, a bust, was to be introduced; the likeness, a copy of that by Charlotte Jones, was selected by the Princess herself.

The box was sent to Vienna to be finished; and when it returns, in the interior the following lines will appear written on white satin. These lines have been erroneously ascribed to the Princess Charlotte as her own composition; they are, however, a parody from the Seasons of Thomson, with the substitution of

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those names, applicable to the design of her Royal Highness. The box was intended as a present to Prince Leopold.

" To Claremont's terrac'd heights and Esher's groves,
" Where, in the sweetest solitude, embraced
" By the soft windings of the silent Mole,
" From courts and cities CHARLOTTE finds repose.
" Enchanting vale! beyond whate'er the Muse
" Has of *Achaia* or *Hesperia* sung.
" O vale of bliss! O softly-swelling hills!
" On which the power of cultivation lies,
" And joys to see the wonders of his toil."

These lines are to be found in the Poem on Summer, and the name *Charlotte* is substituted for *Pelham*.

For some months after it was generally known, that her Royal Highness was likely to become a mother, she continued her usual walks and rides with Prince Leopold in the neighbourhood of Claremont; and it was not until a short period before her *accouchement*, that she confined such agreeable excursions to her own grounds within the park. During the former period her diet was low, eating little or no solid food, and drinking scarcely any wine. As her Royal Highness had the advice of Sir Richard Croft, Dr. Baillie, and Dr. Hockman, the latter of whom is resident physician to Prince Leopold, this peculiarity of diet must have had their sanction, as most suitable to her situation. During the progress of her pregnancy, her Royal Highness was frequently blooded. Sir Richard Croft, who attended her, as it

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would appear, had an hereditary claim to that honor, his father having assisted to bring her Royal Highness into the world. It has already been stated, that according to the opinion of a medical gentleman, well informed upon the subject of the obstetric art, he predicted, that it was possible her Royal Highness's accouchement might take place so early as the 7th of October, but that it was very likely to happen in the seven subsequent days. This statement being generally reported, and not being contradicted, came, it is said, at last to the ears of the Queen. Sir Richard Croft was, by this time, accustomed to make reports to her Majesty of the actual condition of the Princess; and it has been stated, that her Majesty, apprehending a possibility that the medical gentlemen who visited Claremont might be mistaken in their calculations, determined upon visiting the Princess. This visit of her Majesty stands, however, upon very questionable authority; and although it might have been looked for, for various reasons, previously to the departure of her Majesty for Bath, yet the certainty of it is by no means authenticated. As this subject will be further enlarged upon in the course of these Memoirs, when the actual facts come to be examined, relative to the situation in which her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte appears to have been left by the Royal Family, in the most critical and important period of her life, we shall proceed to the narrative of those events which immediately preceded her accouchement.

For various reasons, it was suggested to Prince Leopold, that the accouchement of the Princess

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Charlotte should take place in the immediate vicinity of the metropolis; and every necessary measure was taken to complete the negotiation which had been entered into a few months back with the Duke of Marlborough, for his residence in Pall-Mall. The difficulty which formerly existed was known to be, the incompetency of the Duke to make a legal assignment of the premises. That difficulty, however, having been overcome by a decree of the Court of Chancery, the negotiation was renewed; and the Duke lowered the valuation made by his surveyors, to 3,000*l.* per annum, being only 500*l.* more than had been tendered by the Princess Charlotte. At this rent the mansion was taken, and the leases were ordered to be executed. It was to be thoroughly repaired and beautified. The expense of the whole was estimated at 10,000*l.* In consequence of this arrangement, all idea of occupying Buckingham-House was abandoned. The commencement of the repairs of Marlborough-House was postponed, but some additions were to be made in the meantime to the furniture.

On the 20th of September, his Serene Highness Prince Leopold arrived in town for the express purpose of surveying Marlborough-House, with a view of ascertaining how far it could be rendered suitable for the reception of the Princess Charlotte during her approaching confinement. His Highness went into every one of the principal rooms; and it was not till after his observation of their unfitness, that the arrangements were finally made with Lord Castlereagh for the continuance of her Royal Highness at Claremont.

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It was expected that the accouchement of the Princess would take place at a time when it was not usual for more than one cabinet minister to remain in town. It was, however, regulated that the state officers should be on visits at places in the neighbourhood of Claremont; at the Duke of York's, Lord Sidmouth's, or, perhaps, Windsor-Castle.

It occasioned, indeed, no inconsiderable regret to observe that at this momentous period Prince Leopold had frequent relapses of the rheumatic affection in his head; a complaint with which he was attacked soon after his arrival in England; occasioned, as it is supposed, by travelling part of the way in an open carriage when the wind was severely cold; and he was in consequence obliged to have several teeth drawn. In other respects, his Serene Highness enjoyed an excellent degree of bodily health.

The wife of a respectable yeoman in the vicinity of Claremont, was engaged as wet nurse for the expected royal infant. The young woman obtained the appointment by the account she gave of herself in a letter to Sir Richard Croft, written with so much simplicity, yet with so correct a communication of the particulars which would naturally be required, that Sir Richard immediately sent for her. From his house she was directed to another, where several of the medical advisers of the Royal Family had formed a sort of Board for her examination. After she had answered several questions, the medical gentlemen began to converse in French. It happened that she had a knowledge of the language; and, as she supposed

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it to be intended that she should not understand their conversation, she had the ingenuousness and the modesty to say, that perhaps she had better withdraw, as French was not unknown to her. On her return she was informed that the Board would recommend her for the office she solicited, if they were satisfied with the appearance of her children. She has three, and these were subsequently examined. Soon afterwards she received a message from the Princess Charlotte, desiring to see her and her children. On her attendance at Claremont, the Princess and Prince Leopold passed three hours in the room with her and her children, to the latter of whom the Princess gave abundance of sweetmeats. Prince Leopold took one of them upon his knee, and said, "Well, you and I shall probably be much better acquainted." The young woman was charmed with such condescension and affability. She was then near her own confinement: the Princess told her that she should be well accommodated at Claremont, if she chose to stay, but that it was wished she should do exactly as she pleased. She candidly said, that she should prefer returning to her husband's house. There she, in a few days, became the mother of a hearty boy, concerning whom and herself inquiries were daily made from Claremont. It has been before said, that this young woman is the wife of a respectable yeoman near Claremont. The appointment is no slight acquisition. What the whole recompense is, in case of the birth of a Princess, we have not learned; but, in case of a Prince, it is

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1,500*l.* and 200*l.* a-year. The wife of a respectable attorney, having been wet nurse to Princess Charlotte, has now 100*l.* a-year, and her son is a Lieutenant in the navy.

The situation of the Princess Charlotte now excited an unusual degree of interest in the country; the event was looked forward to with hope and confidence, but not with dread. On the 21st of October, her Royal Highness rose at nine in the morning in the enjoyment of excellent health. At ten she breakfasted with Prince Leopold. The favorable state of the weather induced her Royal Highness to leave the house to walk in the pleasure-grounds, parks, &c. Her Royal Highness occasionally rode in her garden-chair, and proceeded to the garden to view the improvements that were making there. The Princess remained out about an hour and a half, and, during the whole time, was accompanied by Prince Leopold.

In full contemplation of a fortunate result to the approaching crisis, Prince Leopold purchased Lady Anne Murray's house at Brighton, with the view of spending a few weeks there with the Princess Charlotte *after* her accouchement. How vain—how futile are the hopes of man!

On the 22d, Prince Leopold, after attending his royal consort in her walks, and while riding in her garden-chair, took the diversion of shooting in the neighbourhood. His Serene Highness returned to the society of the Princess about five o'clock, after which they dined together; the principal attendants who were at Claremont had the honor of dining

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with them. Her Royal Highness retired to rest soon after eleven o'clock. The following morning the weather proved remarkably fine and clear; about twelve o'clock the sun shone as bright as on a spring day, which induced her Royal Highness, who continued extremely well, to leave Claremont-House, to take her usual exercise of walking and riding in her garden-chair, accompanied by Prince Leopold, and attended by several of her suite. Her Royal Highness proceeded to view the Gothic temple, her last—her farewell visit to this Elysian scene! An unexpected shower of rain came on, which hastened the return of her Royal Highness to the house, where she arrived at half-past one o'clock, having experienced very little inconvenience from the rain. At two the shower ceased, and Prince Leopold went out to take the diversion of shooting for a short time.

On the 24th, a considerable fall of rain took place in the morning and continued until one o'clock, when it became very fine, which enabled the Princess Charlotte to take her usual airing in her garden-chair at two, accompanied by Prince Leopold; the Princess was attended by several of her principal servants. Her Royal Highness returned to the house soon after three.

On Saturday the 26th, the Princess Charlotte rode out in her garden-chair to the farm-yard, and inspected the alterations going on there, accompanied by Prince Leopold and several attendants. Her Royal Highness proceeded from thence to the garden grounds; and during her absence,

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messengers arrived from the Duchess of York at Oatlands, with an inquiry after the Princess's health.

On the following day, the Princess Charlotte, Prince Leopold, their attendants, and the household generally, attended divine service in the house, which was performed by the Rev. Dr. Short. The Princess Charlotte afterwards, accompanied by Prince Leopold and Dr. Short, walked in the shrubbery to the grotto. This was the last time her Royal Highness visited this enchanting spot, and her whole theme was concerning the improvements which she intended to make; and particularly the repairing of the grotto, which, during the time that the house had been uninhabited, had been much dilapidated by the numerous visitors, who occasionally repaired to Claremont, to view the beauties of the place.

The health of the Princess Charlotte, in the mean time, continued in the most perfect state; indeed, it seemed to bear a resemblance to that preternatural state of health from which the great father of physic teaches us to apprehend so much. But it is well known that the whole period of gestation and parturition is a state of preternatural power and action. It is not difficult to guess what it must have proved with the additional excitements which the Princess Charlotte experienced. There is every reason to believe, although nothing from actual authority is known, that pains were taken to repress as much as possible a morbid excess of animal spirits, the effects of which were apprehended; but, it is an established

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fact, that this is not only out of the power of the physician, but often of the patient herself.

Every preparation was made at Claremont for the approaching crisis. The horses were kept saddled night and day, to carry the expresses to the different cabinet ministers; and, although every one looked forward with anxiety to the event, yet fear rested on the minds of few, owing to the high spirits and extraordinary state of health which the Princess enjoyed.

That no apprehension for the result rested upon the minds of any of the members of the Royal Family may be collected from the preparations which were, at this important period, carried on for the visit of her Majesty, the Princess Elizabeth, and the Duke of Clarence, to Bath, and for the departure of the Prince Regent for Ragley-Hall. The latter left town on Monday the 27th—in a short time to be recalled, to behold the corpse of his beloved daughter!

The Princess Charlotte, at this time, lost no opportunity of taking gentle and moderate exercise, which was particularly recommended to her by her physicians; and although the weather was not at this season of the year very inviting for rural excursions or promenades, the Princess profited by every glimpse of sunshine to take her airings in her poney-cart, during which her Royal Highness was always attended by her affectionate husband, whose constant attentions and assiduities for the solace of his most interesting consort

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cannot be too highly extolled, and the consciousness of which conduct must tend in a minor degree to assuage his grief at her irreparable loss.

Her Majesty and the Princess Elizabeth took their departure for Bath on the 1st of November; and, as it is stated, that favorable reports were daily transmitted to her Majesty of the excellent state of the health of the Princess Charlotte, and of the total absence of fear on the part of her accoucheur respecting the result of the approaching event; judging, with the spirit of candour, there does not seem a good foundation for the acrimonious reflections which were directed against her; for they appeared to owe their origin solely to the opinion, that the Princess's accouchement was very nigh, perhaps, only at the distance of a single day. It has been stated, that her Majesty did offer to the Princess to defer her departure for Bath until after her accouchement; but that the offer was positively rejected on the part of her Royal Highness.

The Queen and the Princess Elizabeth hesitated not to set off for Bath, in consequence of the extraordinary degree of health which the Princess enjoyed, and with the full assurance that her medical attendants were men of the most consummate skill, and consequently enabled to meet the most trying and difficult cases.

The life which the Princess Charlotte now led was of the most retired nature. She did not even see her most intimate friends, whose names, when they

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paid a visit, were only left in the hall. Her Royal Highness, in conjunction with Mrs. Griffiths, the nurse, took great pleasure in preparing the apparel proper for the expected stranger; and so far from looking forward to the event with that dread, which is the usual concomitant of the patient on her first lying-in, her Royal Highness often expressed her wishes that the time of her delivery was come, for she had resigned herself into the hands of the Almighty; and, therefore, whatever might be her fate, she bowed with resignation to his will.

Sunday, the 2d of November, was the last opportunity afforded to her of joining in the public exercise of divine worship. On that day the whole household were assembled as usual, the estimable pair setting their never-failing example of rational piety; after which they took their customary airing in those grounds, so sweetly embellished by her, whom the ensuing Sabbath saw deposited in the last—last sad receptacle of frail mortality, preparatory to its removal to its final mansion!

It has, indeed, been stated, that on this day, a fortnight was supposed to have gone by since her Royal Highness should have been delivered. The slownesss of the labour, however, did not much add to the ordinary danger resulting from cases of this kind. Her Royal Highness's health being so extremely good, from Monday night up to the period of her delivery, that it was impossible for her medical attendants to determine by unequivocal symptoms when the labour would commence.

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It has been before mentioned that the health of her Royal Highness continued during her pregnancy uninterruptedly good; partly from a sound constitution, and partly from that judicious caution which her Royal Highness observed in a season so important. The Princess continued to enjoy that state of health until her accouchement, and lived immediately under the eye of her accoucheur, Sir Richard Croft, who resided at Claremont for three weeks, up to the moment when she was taken ill. Dr. Baillie, also was in attendance, chiefly on account of a promise exacted from him by the Princess, that he would be near her on this occasion*.

The first symptoms of approaching accouchement were perceived about three o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 4th of November; and the servants, who had been for a long time in waiting, were imme-

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* An anecdote, connected with the first introduction of Sir Richard Croft to the Princess Charlotte, has been widely circulated; it is equally unfounded with that of the libel relative to her Royal Highness's riding about Windsor in an officer's uniform. It was stated, that on one of the indispositions of her Royal Highness, Dr. Baillie was called in, who immediately on questioning his royal patient, abruptly exclaimed—"Oh, I see! it is not I whom you want; it is my brother-in-law, Sir Richard Croft;" and accordingly Sir Richard was introduced to her Royal Highness. The knowledge of the world which Dr. Baillie possesses, connected with his truly gentlemanlike manners, are sufficient vouchers against the truth of this statement. It was a speech which might have issued from the lips of a Dr. D——n or a Dr. H——n, but never from those of Dr. Baillie.

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diately sent off express for the different officers of state, whose duty it is to be present on such occasions. Dr. Baillie was also summoned to give his advice, if necessary. So great was the speed of the different messengers, who all left Claremont at a quarter past three, that Lord Bathurst arrived from Putney at a quarter past five o'clock; Lord Sidmouth, from Richmond, at a quarter before six; the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London, from Fulham, at six; the Chancellor of the Exchequer, from Downing-street, at half past seven; and, lastly, the Lord Chancellor, from Bedford-square, at a quarter before eight. Dr. Baillie arrived from Virginia Water at a quarter past seven.

Prince Leopold passed the day in the greatest anxiety; those, indeed, whose sympathies were necessarily far less excited, seemed to forget every other thought in their eagerness to ascertain the condition of the Princess. Kingston, being only five miles from Claremont, was in a bustle the whole morning; and as a rumour prevailed, that the Princess had given birth to a son, the mayor despatched the high constable to Claremont to make the necessary inquiries; but the answer was, that the desired event had not yet taken place. At a late hour in the evening no child was born, but Sir Richard Croft told the officers of state assembled on the occasion, that the progress of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte's illness, was in every respect as favorable as he could wish.

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The labour pains were, however, at first so inefficient, although acute, as scarcely to evacuate the water which had ruptured the membranes at the commencement of the labour; a circumstance, however, which every accoucheur knows prognosticates nothing of an uncommon or untoward issue.

The labour proceeded slowly for twenty-six hours, the Princess being frequently up, and walking about, experiencing that the pains almost left her when she was in a recumbent posture. About this time also, judging from the inefficiency of the pains, and the little progress made in the labour, Sir Richard Croft suspected that there were either twins, or that there existed some irregular action of the uterus; and as it was possible that a consultation might be ultimately necessary, he wrote to Dr. John Sims, requesting his immediate attendance. He had, in the mean time, provided whatever could be wanted, should it be found expedient to have recourse to artificial delivery.

Dr. Sims arrived at Claremont at two o'clock, on the morning of Wednesday, but did not then see the Princess. It was proposed by Sir Richard, that the introduction should take place; but both Dr. Sims himself, and Dr. Baillie, thought his presence at that time could not be productive of any benefit, but might agitate the patient. Dr. Sims, therefore, declined entering the Princess's apartment. No consultation took place at this period, as the labour was evidently advancing, although slowly; but on hearing

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the statement of the situation of the Princess, from Sir Richard Croft, Dr. Sims concurred in the opinion, that every thing should be left to nature.

About noon, on Wednesday, it was first suspected that the child might be dead, or that it might be born in a state of suspended animation; and every known means of recovery were immediately prepared. Still the labour continued to be scarcely progressive, the pains being such as tended to forward birth, rather by moulding the head, so as to admit of its easy passage, than by forcible expulsion.

Early in the morning of the 5th, the following bulletin was issued:—

"*Claremont, Nov. 5, half past five, p. m.*

"The labor of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte has within the last three or four hours considerably advanced; and will, it is hoped, within a few hours be happily completed.

M. Baillie,
R. Croft,
John Sims."

But at a quarter past nine, the hope, thus encouraged, was destroyed by the following annunciation:—

"*Claremont, Nov. 5, quarter past 9 in the Evening.*

"At nine o'clock this evening, her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte was safely delivered of a still-born male child, and her Royal Highness is going on favorably.

M. Baillie,
R. Croft,
John Sims."

Whilst Drs. Sims and Baillie were endeavoring to re-animate the infant, Sir Richard remained with

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dead-born with much resignation, most piously exclaiming, "Thy will, O Heaven! not mine, be done!"

From the chief sufferer we turn to those who are most nearly interested in the event. His Serene Highness Prince Leopold felt all the anxiety natural to an affectionate husband during the whole labour. When the death of the child was announced to him, he consoled himself with the survival of the mother; under the loss of both, he will, as a wise and devout man, for he has conspicuously demonstrated himself to be an amiable one, look for support and consolation farther than in human sympathies and perishable relations. On the report that the Princess was doing well, he had retired to rest in the adjoining chamber, his strength being completely exhausted by constant anxiety and increasing watchfulness from the preceding Monday night until the time of his royal consort's being taken ill. His Serene Highness was among the first of those who attended the summons on the appearance of indisposition. About eleven o'clock, her Royal Highness appeared inclined to sleep; this might, perhaps, be the effect of mere exhaustion, but, as it was unattended by any of the usual characters of serious illness, it was construed into a favorable circumstance, and the great officers of state immediately took their departure. The Archbishop of Canterbury and Bishop of London left Claremont a little after eleven.

It was stated also in one account, that all the medical attendants left her Royal Highness; but this statement was publicly contradicted, for the insinuations of the malignant began to be openly expressed; and a charge

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of gross neglect, not to call it by a harsher epithet, was imputed to a certain quarter. There was no pretence whatever for any imputation of insufficient care; for it was averred that Sir R. Croft never once quitted her Royal Highness from the commencement of her illness, and the two other medical attendants were in the next room the whole time, and were present from the moment of the attack till its final termination.

The first alarming symptom occurred about twelve o'clock, when her Royal Highness felt a difficulty in swallowing some gruel, at the same time complaining of being chilly, and of a pain in her chest. Her quiet left her, she became restless and uneasy, and the medical attendants felt alarmed. The Prince was immediately called up, and was soon at the bed-side of his beloved consort. The two medical attendants from the next room instantly joined Sir R. Croft, and every remedy which their united skill could devise was sedulously applied. From that time the fatal issue advanced rapidly; a slight difficulty in swallowing which soon subsided, added to the sickness, was all that had previously occurred. But from this time, pain in the chest, great difficulty in respiration, and extreme restlessness increased, until the fears of the physicians could be no longer dissembled. Expresses were immediately sent off to the cabinet ministers conveying their doubts with respect to the event.

The attention and anxiety manifested by Prince Leopold during the whole of the trying scene, could only be equalled by the tender solicitude which the Princess Charlotte, even in her exhausted state, mani-

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fested towards her beloved husband. She cheered him by her expressions of hope, by her tender assurances of resignation; and, to all appearance, at this moment, when death was hastily creeping upon her, her Royal Highness assumed a degree of cheerfulness and of apparent ease, for the purpose of assuaging the affliction which his Serene Highness displayed at the length and excess of her sufferings.

Some small supplies of nourishment were now administered to her Royal Highness, but they appeared to create only a nausea. She vomited, but nothing was ejected, except a little camphor julep which she had taken, and at this moment her pulse was firm, steady, and under a hundred. She again became composed.

The Prince Leopold remained by her bedside the whole time, endeavoring as much as possible to disguise from his suffering consort the grief and agony he felt at the unexpected turn which had taken place. Her Royal Highness, it is said, scarcely ever moved her eyes from the face of her beloved consort, extending her hand frequently to meet his—that hand which was, in one short hour, to be cold, insensible, and lifeless!

About five minutes before her death, the Princess said to her medical attendants, "Is there any danger?"—They replied, that they requested her Royal Highness to compose herself. The Princess replied with great composure, "I understand the meaning of that answer;" and, it is stated, she added that she had one request to make, and begged that it might be put in writing. It was, that she

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hoped the customary etiquette would at some future day be dispensed with; and that her husband, when his awful time should arrive, might be laid by her side.

The utterance of this request seemed to have partially relieved her departing spirit—she appeared as if her interest in the concerns of this world were at an end—and a solemn, heart-rending silence followed. For some moments, the throbbings of the hearts of the agonized attendants might almost have been heard. The vital spark flashed for a moment brightly—but the power of articulation was gone. The dimness of death was creeping upon her sight—still she moved not her eyes from the face of her beloved Leopold, who stood in speechless agony over her. He hung upon that countenance which had been his delight in health, in strength, and joy; and it now beamed consolation and support on the awful verge of a purer existence.

The inevitable fiat had been pronounced; and the dread messenger of an Almighty's will stood ready to execute it. The hand was raised to deal the blow—but the angel of mercy steeped the fatal shaft in the balsam of resignation, and the spirit of religion in the dread hour supported the sufferer's heart.

In her last agonies—in the awful moment when the scenes of this earth were to close upon her for ever—scenes in which she had known the height of terrestrial bliss;—the Princess grasped the hand of him, who had ever been the object of that bliss—'twas not the warm

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grasp of life—'twas the convulsive one of death. Her hand fell on her left breast—and breathing a gentle sigh—she expired!

The agony of Prince Leopold at this moment may, perhaps, be conceived; it cannot be adequately described.—Sacred are the sorrows of the mourner, and, therefore, for a time, let the veil of secresy be thrown over them.

The Prince Regent, it is well known, had been at this period a week or ten days at the seat of Lord Hertford, in Suffolk; but having received intelligence that the illness of the Princess Charlotte had commenced, he hastened to town on his way to Claremont. During his journey his Royal Highness stopped two messengers with despatches: these, it is said, announced only the slow progress of the labour, and the apparent absence of danger: a third, with the account of the delivery of the still-born child, passed him in the night: so that it was not till after his arrival in town, that his Royal Highness became acquainted with the full extent of his misfortune. He reached Carlton-House about four in the morning, where the Duke of York and Lord Bathurst met him as the official bearers of the melancholy intelligence.

His Majesty's ministers arrived in London about five o'clock in the morning; and expresses, announcing the melancholy tidings were immediately despatched in various directions. The following mournful letter was sent by Lord Sidmouth to the Lord Mayor:—

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"*Whitehall, Nov. 6, 6 a. m.*

"MY LORD,

"IT is with the deepest sorrow that I inform your lordship, that her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte expired this morning at half-past two o'clock.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) SIDMOUTH."

"*The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor.*"

The tale of grief was ended by the following short, but expressive notice in the Gazette :—

LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY,

THURSDAY, *Nov.* 6.

"*Whitehall, Nov. 6.*

"Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte Augusta, daughter of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, and consort of his Serene Highness the Prince Leopold of Saxe-Cobourg, was delivered of a still-born male child at nine o'clock last night, and about half-past twelve her Royal Highness was seized with great difficulty of breathing, restlessness, and exhaustion, which alarming symptoms increased till half-past two o'clock this morning; when her Royal Highness expired, to the inexpressible grief of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, of her illustrious consort the Prince Leopold, and of all the Royal Family."

The most prompt measures were instantly adopted in the city for giving public and official solemnity to the internal feelings. The Lord Mayor summoned an especial Meeting of the Court of Aldermen, which took place at Guildhall immediately. When it was unanimously agreed, that the fitting up of the Guildhall for the approaching Lord Mayor's day should be immediately discontinued, and the preparations already made for the purpose, removed. Public notice was also directed to be given for abolishing all show

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and rejoicings on that day. The Lord Mayor also ordered the great bell of St. Paul's to toll, as is customary when any of the Royal Family die. The trades-people of the Royal Family, by a spontaneous movement, shut up the windows of their shops. Lord Sidmouth also sent orders to suspend performances at the different theatres; the lottery was suspended by an order from the Lords of the Treasury, and all these suspensions were ordered to remain in force until after the funeral.

" In casting our eyes back to antecedent periods of English history, we find no calamity exactly similar to the present. We live under an hereditary limited monarchy; not for the pre-eminence of those who govern, but jointly, with their security, for that of ourselves and our children, who are governed: and in the distribution of happiness, so far as the constitution imparts it, probably the reigning family has no undue share: but, whatever occurrence affects its interests, its continuity, its dignity, or even its comforts, affects in a deep degree all the families of the nation. To what extent, therefore, has the realm heretofore sustained disasters at all resembling that which now diffuses so general a gloom? Henry I. lost an only son of great promise, by shipwreck, between Barfleur and England, and the father was never seen to smile afterwards; but that son was known to be averse to the English nation, so that his death need not have

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plunged the inhabitants in any very acute grief. The hopes of a brave nation were cruelly disappointed by the death of the Black Prince, the son of Edward III.; but he left a son who might inspire hopes at least in the midst of the national sorrow, if he failed ultimately of realizing them; for it was not till many years after the death of his grandfather, Richard the Second's incapacity to govern was ascertained. The melancholy fate of the two Princes in the Tower was rather calculated to draw tears from their contemporaries, than to blast the prospect of public tranquillity. The times also were turbulent, and men's minds were familiarized to conflicting claims and disputed successions. Prince Arthur, the eldest son of Henry VII, was esteemed a youth of merit; but he left behind him a brother of equal talents, had he not been corrupted by power; for it is a most undeniable fact, that all the vices and all the villanies of Henry VIII., numerous as they were, sprung from a servile parliament, and the indulgence of an unrestrained will. The death of Edward VI. was, indeed, a severe and lamentable public calamity; it wanted only one bitterness; it came not unforeseen or unexpected; the line of succession was clear; and out of the gloom which followed his death, it pleased Providence at no remote period to draw the brightest and most glorious light. James I. lost his eldest son, Henry, a prince who had endeared himself to the nation, but whose military character, as

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Hume justly observes, apparent from his earliest youth, was more calculated to enhance the glory than to secure the liberties of the people whom he was to govern, In all these cases the loss was single, or at least equivalent to single. The defalcation which is occasioned in the succession by the death of a parent and her child takes a much more deep and extensive range into futurity. In the common course of nature, it may affect the quiet and orderly administration of affairs for more than three-score years to come; during which period the Prince Regent might have retired to a better world, ripe in years and in honors, and left the stage clear for the display of public virtue in his child and grandchild. How must he grieve that it is now his lot to follow those to the grave, to whom, in the more usual ordinances of Providence, it belonged to follow and weep over him!

"The Prince Regent, with the most considerate attention, was no sooner informed of the melancholy death of his beloved daughter, than he immediately despatched the Duke of York and Lord Bathurst to offer to Prince Leopold an immediate asylum in Carlton-House, to spare him the painful sight of the afflictive preparations necessary for the funeral of his consort, and apartments were immediately ordered for his reception. The Prince Regent was on the point of pursuing his journey to Claremont, having already despatched an officer of the household to intimate

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his intention, when the news of the Princess's death was brought.

"It has been already noticed, that an express was sent off to her Majesty at Bath, communicating the unpleasant tidings of the Princess Charlotte having been safely delivered of a still-born child; and the messenger arrived about a quarter of an hour before her Majesty received the address of the Corporation of Bath. Her Majesty, however, soon recovered from the first impression, being solaced by the assurance that her lovely grand-daughter was doing well.

"After the introduction to her Majesty, the Mayor and Corporation, and a numerous company, repaired to the Guildhall to dine together. Alas! before the tables were cleared, one of her Majesty's pages brought a letter to Sir H. Halford; it was instantly handed to his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, who reading it with much emotion, rose from his seat, and took his departure. We cannot describe the sensations of the assemblage after the sudden departure of the royal Duke. In a faltering tone of voice the Marquis of Camden proposed a suspension of all entertainment, and every individual rose from the table, and retired in silent contemplation upon the melancholy and deeply regretted death of the most amiable and beloved Princess Charlotte of Wales.

"As soon as the fatal intelligence arrived in town, Lord Sidmouth sent off a messenger with a des-

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patch, about a quarter before six, to Bath. On the messenger's arrival, he found that her Majesty was at dinner with the Princess Elizabeth, the Countess Dowager of Ilchester, General Taylor, and others. The despatch being addressed to General Taylor, he came out, and read it with the emotions which it was calculated to excite. The General, with a view to communicate the afflicting news to the Queen in the best possible way, requested Lady Ilchester to be called out. On the return of her Ladyship to the apartment, the Queen immediately changed colour, and with evident alarm, exclaimed—" I know some fatal event has happened!" When the awful event was disclosed, her Majesty's agony was extreme. She covered her face and gave a convulsive sob. The same mournful impression was made on the Princess Elizabeth, who was exceedingly agitated; and they both retired to their private apartments. The Queen, notwithstanding her wishes, was too much indisposed to remove from Bath immediately; but her Majesty and the Princess arrived at Windsor in the course of Saturday. Letters were received in town on Saturday morning from the Queen, Princess Elizabeth, and the Duke of Clarence, addressed to the Prince Regent and to Prince Leopold.

" The Prince Regent was so deeply affected by the melancholy intelligence, that it became necessary to bleed him twice besides cupping him. This gave him bodily relief, though his

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mental sufferings appeared to be as acute as ever. On the 9th, at half past seven, his Royal Highness received a visit from the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, who, on receiving the lamentable information, immediately set off for town. The Duchess, on her arrival at Carlton-House, partly on account of the shocking event of the death of the Princess, partly on witnessing the deep affliction which seemed almost to overwhelm her Royal brother, was so dreadfully agitated, that it became necessary to detain her Royal Highness; and, after some time, she was prevailed upon to retire for the purpose of repose. The Duke of Gloucester then proceeded to Claremont. The Prince Regent, in the mean time, having been apprized of the effect which their mutual calamity had produced on the Queen, and Princesses at Windsor, determined to repair thither, in the hope, perhaps, of finding some alleviation, however slight, for his affliction, by sharing it with those scarcely less interested in it than himself. His Royal Highness went alone, and travelled with the blinds of his carriage down.

"In the more immediate vicinage of Claremont, the symptoms of sorrow were most strongly marked The houses of Esher and Kingston, where preparations had been made for bonfires, on the safe delivery of the Princess, were actually shut, as if a death had happened in almost every family there. Her safe delivery had been announced at Esher, and the bells immediately set up a merry peal, and

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they were actually ringing when the dreadful news of her decease arrived. It came upon the inhabitants of Esher like a thunderbolt, or like the sudden ravage of an earthquake ;—it was felt the more as it came unlooked for and unexpected. Grief and consternation were imprinted upon every countenance;—the mother looked as if she had lost her child,—the husband as if he had lost his wife,—the brother as if he had lost a sister,—and all looked as if they had lost a friend. It was in the immediate vicinity of Claremont that her virtues were best known; it was there that her real worth was duly appreciated. The eminence of her station while she lived, was such as to attach the utmost importance to her minutest actions. How much more then must her death fix attention! and if, as there is every reason to believe, the qualities of her heart, and the powers of her understanding were calculated to adorn the station for which she appeared destined, and to promote the happiness of those whom she was to govern—how must her loss exact sorrow and regret! One of our best historians, in speaking of the premature death of an heir-apparent to the British throne, says, "Contemporary historians are fond of dwelling on the virtues of this Prince." It is, indeed, only from contemporary writers, or contemporary opinion, that the characters of persons born to high rank, but who have not been spared to act their parts in the theatre of public life, can be known to posterity. Then the station of the Princess was the

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most eminent to which mortals are born, or can aspire, is undeniable; and, it is therefore fitting for posterity to know, that the promise and earnest which she had afforded of a capacity to fill that station with usefulness and honor, was evinced by the unqualified grief of all her countrymen for her loss. Such a period of sorrow and dismay has but rarely occurred in the history of the nation. Some events are magnified by those among whom they take place, for the same reason that objects appear greater in proportion as they are near; but the present, lamentable as it is, being still more likely to affect in its consequences, than in its immediate occurrence, cannot well be overvalued by contemporaries. Let the nation well consider how posterity may have to speak of the event in their narratives. Among any people, with whom the law of primogeniture prevails in the claims to the crown, an uninterrupted succession from father to son, or from father to daughter, in direct descent, is of great importance to public order. At all events then, a turn in the succession must here occur which will form an epoch to historians, and oblige genealogists to alter their line. May the new one, from whomsoever it springs, still lead to national honor and prosperity! But it is interesting to know, that she to whom we have for twenty years looked for a continuation of the old line, was not likely to fall below its most valuable antecedent members in solid virtue and worth; and, that the British nation, both personally and politically,

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loved her whilst living, and lament her when dead.

"From these reflections (and similar ones crowd upon the mind on every view of this melancholy subject), we turn to that now desolate mansion, where perhaps the most hopeless—hapless man in the country at the present moment, the wretched Prince Leopold, lies in all the agony of his grief. Let not the disappointment be mentioned of that hope and promise of being the root from which the future sovereigns of the freest nation upon earth were to proceed—"Thou shalt get Kings, tho' thou be none"—but of the utter defeat and destruction of all those prospects of domestic happiness, which not a month since appeared so bright and unclouded. On that day three weeks we find him accompanying the Princess in one of those rides she took about the grounds of Claremont, conversing, as we may easily conceive, upon the future—sketching plans of domestic happiness in their new characters of father and mother—fancying themselves already surrounded by their offspring—pursuing the story of their happy lives long into the future—and promising themselves

> 'That which should accompany old age,
> As honor, love, obedience, troops of friends.'

All these things we may well imagine to have been the subject-matter of their converse. And now, three weeks only elapsed—nay, not so much! And that voice which so discoursed, mute—and

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for ever: and that eye glazed and cold in death: And the husband cut off from wife and child, now following, in single solitary wretchedness, the inanimate corpse, through these scenes of former happiness. If there be anguish greater than this we know it not.

"In consequence of the indisposed state of Prince Leopold, the following bulletin was issued on Friday the 7th:

"'The Prince Leopold has had a bad night, but is more composed this morning.'

"His Serene Highness was beginning to assume a settled kind of composure when the circumstance of the embalming of the body of the Princess so horrified him, that he appeared to shun every consolation which was offered to him. The body of the Princess was indeed embalmed before Prince Leopold was aware of the operation; for it was supposed, that he might be the more affected by it, as the ceremony, though observed from time immemorial, with respect to the corpses of the English Royal Family, is unknown in most of the foreign courts, and is, in fact, under all its circumstances of mangling, as well as useless indecorum, revolting to the heart. When his Highness was at last informed of it, he heard it with much agitation; and from that moment he regained not the composure which he had at least seemed to acquire.

"It has been stated that his Majesty gave directions, on the demise of his beloved daughter

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Amelia, that the barbarous practice of embalming, a relic transmitted to us from the age of the grossest barbarism,* should be dispensed with, considering it as indecent and absurd.

* Diodorus Siculus informs us, that, among the Egyptians, the inventors of this art, the person who performed this part of the act, fled as soon as he had discharged his office; and all who were present pursued him with stones, as one who had incurred the public malediction: for they regarded with horror every one who had offered any violence to a human body. But the ancient manner of embalming bodies, and of preserving them for many ages, is absolutely lost. Forty days were spent by the Egyptians in completing the operation, and the moderns have not been able to discover the ingredients of which their mummies were composed. What Herodotus relates of certain procedures in this art, has been proved impracticable in the Memoirs of the *Academy of Inscriptions*. In these latter days, however, dead bodies have been preserved for a considerable length of time. Brydone describes a convent of Capuchins near Palermo, in which there is a vast subterraneous apartment, divided into large commodious galleries, the walls on each side of which are hollowed into a variety of niches, as if intended for a great collection of statues; these niches, instead of statues, are all filled with dead bodies, set upright upon their legs, and fixed by the back to the inside of the niche: their number is about 300; they are all dressed in the clothes they usually wore, and form a most respectable and venerable assembly. The skin and muscles by a certain preparation become as dry and as hard as a piece of stockfish; and although many of them have been here upwards of 250 years, yet none are reduced to skeletons; the muscles, indeed, in some appear to be a good deal more shrunk than in others, probably because these persons had been more extenuated at the time of their death. Here the people of Palermo pay daily visits to their deceased friends, and recall with pleasure and regret the scenes of their past life. Here they familiarize themselves with their future state, and choose the company they would wish to

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"It might have been useful at a period when the body was kept for several weeks in state, and without being enclosed in lead. But now it can be retained only on the score of precedent, unless it be for the sake of the fees.

"On the demise of any member of the Royal Family, it is the duty of the Serjeant Surgeon of the King to embalm the body. Accordingly Sir Everard Home had an audience of the Prince Regent, on the Thursday morning; and on the following day he repaired to Claremont, accompanied by Sir David Dundas and Mr. Brande, to perform the melancholy task, in which they were assisted by Mr. Neville the surgeon to the household at Claremont. At the same time it has been understood that to satisfy the anxious and tortured feelings of all those who most tenderly loved the Princess, as well as

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keep in the other world. It is a common thing to make choice of their niche, and to try if their body fits it, that no alterations may be necessary after they are dead: and sometimes, by way of a voluntary penance, they accustom themselves to stand for hours in these niches. We ourselves, three years ago, saw in the Protestant church of St. Thomas, at Strasburg, the bodies of two noble persons, a father and his daughter, which have been preserved upwards of three hundred years: they were habited in the dresses which they wore immediately previous to their deaths, not a hair or an eye-brow was wanting; the eyes were open, and they appeared to be still alive. The minister informed us, that the cases in which they were enclosed were concealed during the period of the Revolution; for, as each of them has valuable rings on the fingers, they would, in all probability, have been mutilated or destroyed.

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to justify the medical practitioners, it was determined to ascertain the proximate cause of her sudden demise. The following is an accurate statement of the appearances these gentlemen observed:—

"The membranes of the brain presented their natural aspect. The vessels of the pia mater were less distended with blood than was to be expected after so severe a labour. The ventricles of the brain contained very little fluid. The plexus choroides was of a pale colour, and the substance of the brain had its natural texture.

"The pericardium (the region of the heart) contained two ounces of red-coloured fluid. The heart itself and the lungs were in a natural state. The stomach contained nearly three pints of liquid. The colon was distended with air. The kidneys and other abdominal viscera were in a natural state."

The foregoing narrative throws very little light upon the immediate cause of the death of the Princess. The fluid found in the pericardium might have obstructed the due action of the heart; but it is not easy to account for its presence there, nor to conceive how so large a quantity could have been effused during the short space of time that supervened to delivery, before the breathing became impeded. Imagination indeed has been busy, and a phalanx of casual circumstances has been arranged to account for the dissolution; some of which are ungenerously and too unguardedly, not to say maliciously, calculated to attach blame to her at-

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tendants; but such expositions ought to be deprecated, as unjust to the individuals concerned, and in no degree honorable to the profession.

It is reported, that the whole of the Royal Family are liable to spasms of a violent description; and to this hereditary pre-disposition, and the excitability of the amiable sufferer, owing to the tedious nature of her labour, is that event to be ascribed, which has destroyed the flattering hopes of the nation, and lopped off the fairest branch from the stem of monarchical succession.

The operation of the embalming being completed, the internal parts as usual were deposited in an urn provided for that purpose. The body of the Princess, after it was embalmed, was enclosed in a number of wrappers stiffened with wax, which will keep it in high preservation for a number of years. These wrappers were again covered with an enclosure of rich blue velvet tied with white riband.

The following very appropriate lines were written on the occasion of the embalming of the Princess; and it is to be hoped, that this pagan rite, disgraceful to a civilized nation, will soon be known only by the name.

Hark! that deep bell's sepulchral tone,
Which only speaks of princes dead,
Bids list'ning anxious crowds bemoan
Their hope, their pride, for ever fled.

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It tells of youth's untimely blight,
Of virtues form'd a realm to save,
For ever lost in Death's dark night,
With all the patriot hopes they gave.

And was there aught of added woe,
To wound the royal husband's breast,
Who saw Death's shadows veil the brow,
His lip of love so oft had prest?

Yes—Pagan rites in Christian land,
His soul with added anguish mov'd;
For strangers, though with *licens'd* hand,
Profane the sacred form he lov'd.

The meanest hind by sorrow bow'd,
Who kneels the humblest bier beside,
At once the form he lov'd may shroud,
And e'en from Pity's glances hide.

And must the royal dead alone,
Distinctions that degrade, possess?
Must England still such customs own,
As Feeling's nicest sense oppress?

No more let heathen customs tear
A Christian husband's heart in twain;
Nor slumb'ring on her honour'd bier,
A Christian Princess' form profane.

Bid funeral robe of costly gold,
Or Hope, and Heaven's own beaming blue,
With proud distinction still enfold
Those forms which sovereigns' splendors knew.

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But be that robe in future clos'd
O'er limbs which secret rest have known,
To mourning Love alone expos'd,
And touch'd by Love's fond grasp alone.

Princess, most lov'd, when known the most,
With thee our brightest prospects close;
A people's joy, a nation's boast,
Will on thy early grave repose.

Blest was thy life; oh! soothing thought,
Beyond a royal charter blest:
He who thy heart Love's lesson taught,
Became the partner of thy breast.

Blest was thy lot, for wedded bliss,
Earth's sweetest meed, to thee was given;
And, the sole gift, surpassing this,
We trust is thine, the bliss of Heaven.

The effect which the decease of the Princess Charlotte had upon the feelings of her royal Father cannot be described; the shock came so unexpected, that the impression was the more violent. With just feelings of sympathy in the sufferings of others, his Royal Highness sent Sir William Congreve to Claremont, to express to Prince Leopold the sentiments of his affectionate condolence, and to inquire after the health of his Serene Highness. It was further said, that his Royal Highness had, besides a verbal message, written to Prince Leopold a letter of the most affecting nature, expressing the deepest sense of the manner in which he had invariably conducted

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himself to his daughter; a manner which had ensured to him the blessings and affections of the father, and the admiration and respect of the nation. His Royal Highness, while he thus considerately endeavored to console the affliction of the husband, himself stood in need of sympathizing attentions. The effect of his grief made it necessary to take some blood from him by cupping, after which his Royal Highness became more resigned and calm.

In the courtly circle no person was so constantly distinguished and so kindly noticed as Prince Leopold by the Regent, who seemed proud to shew to all the world how much he esteemed and valued his son-in-law. From the same genuine kindness he abstained from all interference with the domestic arrangements of Claremont: and, in particular, it should be known that every thing connected with the pregnancy of the Princess was intrusted entirely to her own direction. It was her choice that fixed on Sir Richard Croft, and it was with her that Sir Richard settled that he should be at liberty to consult with Dr. Sims, if necessary. The Princess, too, chose Claremont for the place of her delivery; and it was thought advisable that she should be freed as much as possible from all unnecessary bustle and disturbance. It was always His Royal Highness's the Regent's intention to hasten to Claremont the moment that his own and the nation's hopes were accomplished by the birth of a child; and indeed

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so great was his eagerness and anxiety on that head, when he first learnt the approach of the critical moment, that he would not wait for horses to be sent for to his carriage, but actually took the four horses which had brought the messenger with the bulletin, and set off in the utmost precipitation for London. Here, on his arrival, the Prince Regent found the bulletin of ten o'clock in the evening, which concluded with expressing those hopes which every body then joined in entertaining; but it was manifest that at that moment, more than at any other, quiet would be necessary for the Princess; his Royal Highness, therefore, despatched a messenger, to announce, that in the course of the day, as soon as his presence would not prejudice the amiable patient, he would be at Claremont. That kind, paternal visit, alas! was never destined to take place; but the feelings which prompted it remain, and those who loved the Princess when living, must, now that she is departed, bear a grateful remembrance of those kindnesses which were meditated, as well as those which were shewn towards her by the fondest of fathers.

In the course of the same day the Prince Regent directed the following letter to be written to Sir Richard Croft:

"Sir R. Bloomfield is honored by the commands of the Prince Regent to convey to Sir Richard Croft his Royal Highness's acknowledgments of the zealous care and indefatigable attention manifested towards his beloved daughter during her

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late eventful confinement, and to express his Royal Highness's entire confidence in the medical skill and ability which he displayed during the arduous and protracted labour; whereof the issue, under the will of Divine Providence, has overwhelmed his Royal Highness in such deep affliction."

"*Carlton-House, Nov.* 8, 1817."

The bulletins which were issued on the 8th and 9th of November from Claremont, respecting the health of Prince Leopold, were as follow :—

"*November* 8.

"The Prince had some sleep in the night, and is as well as can be expected this morning."

"*November* 9.

"The Prince Leopold had a calm night, and is this morning rather better than yesterday."

His Serene Highness walked out in the park for a short time, attended by the Rev. Dr. Short. On the 8th, the Duke of Cumberland arrived to pay a visit of condolence; his Royal Highness remained about two hours. In the evening early, Mr. Banting, jun., of the house of France and Banting, arrived to announce that it was necessary to commence the mournful preparations for the funeral. It was settled that the emblems of mourning should enter by the back of the house; and that every thing might be as private as possible, it was fixed that they should arrive at ten o'clock, which was punctually observed. A hearse and four, with the coffins in it, followed by a mourning coach, and four bearers to carry the coffins, arrived

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at the door. The bearers removed the coffins from the hearse, and were conducted to the bed-room where the corpse of the much-beloved Princess lay, and having placed the coffins on tressels retired. The mournful task of placing the body in the coffin fell to the lot of Mr. Neville, the Princess's surgeon extraordinary, and Mrs. Griffiths, the nurse, assisted by Mr. France, the undertaker. The inside coffin in which her remains were deposited, was of mahogany, which was enclosed in a lead coffin. The heart-rending proceeding was witnessed by some of the principal attendants, and Lord John Thynne, who were all, as well as those who were of necessity compelled to assist in the performance, overwhelmed with grief. Not a word was spoken, and every thing was conducted with the greatest solemnity and regularity. In the morning Prince Leopold attended divine service, which was performed by the Rev. Dr. Short. His Serene Highness was accompanied by his principal attendants and domestics. The Prince had taken very little refreshment since his irreparable loss; he, in fact, scarcely took any thing for several days. The Duke of York arrived in a single horse-chaise, to pay his visit of condolence. The Duke of Gloucester followed soon afterwards in a carriage and four, and continued a considerable time.

Sunday morning the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester arrived at Carlton-House from Weymouth, at half-past seven, their Royal Highnesses

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having set off from thence immediately upon receiving the mournful intelligence of the death of the Princess Charlotte. We understand that the feelings of the Duchess were so overpowered upon seeing the Prince Regent, that the effect of her sensibility, added to the fatigues of her journey, rendered it expedient for her Royal Highness to take repose; an apartment at Carlton-House was immediately prepared, and her Royal Highness was prevailed upon to retire to rest. The Prince Regent repaired to Windsor to pay her Majesty and the Princesses a visit of condolence; his Royal Highness went alone, and travelled with all the blinds of his carriage up. The number of nobility and gentry who called at Carlton-House to inquire after the Prince Regent's health, was very great; they learnt that his Royal Highness was as well as could be expected.

One of the first steps taken by Prince Leopold, after the demise of his consort, was to send an express to Scotland, to the Earl of Lauderdale, who had long enjoyed his confidence. This peer was then on his way to town, accompanied by his son, Lord Maitland. His Lordship fortunately met the messenger at Northumberland. On the following Friday Lord Lauderdale obeyed the summons. On entering the room, his Serene Highness rushed into Lord Lauderdale's arms with all the frantic violence of a heart-broken man, and remained in that situation for some time, during which his grief found vent only in sobs and groans. Lord

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Lauderdale at last gently disengaged himself, and endeavored to lead the Prince's mind to the consideration of minor objects. "How delightful it is," said his Lordship, "to breathe the sweet odour of these flowers, so diversified, so rich. An eternal spring seems to embellish these domains; it is a terrestrial paradise. How calm, peaceful, and serene is the triumph of the vegetable reign in its useful magnificence; it is the innocent conquest of the sweetest and rarest objects in the world. How these things display the wonderful power of the Creator. It is on this double contemplation that the soul swells with ecstasy, and *silent admiration turns to prayer*." These judicious observations aroused Leopold, and, for the first time, he found himself momentarily relieved. "I will," exclaimed he, "live and die at Claremont. I will devote every moment of my future life to carry into effect all the ideas of that blessed angel whom I have lost for ever." Here he was unmanned, and burst into a flood of tears. Lord Lauderdale remained with him three hours. His Lordship was not permitted to retire, until he had given the Prince a solemn promise to visit him twice a week at least.

The public, who already look with so much regard towards his Serene Highness, will be pleased to have their good opinion confirmed by a new trait, in perfect conformity with those respectable qualities which have already transpired as belonging to him. It appears, that when his Highness rose on

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the Saturday morning, which he did at a very early hour, the first step which he took towards consoling his own afflictions was by alleviating the distress of others. He ordered 50*l.* to be distributed among the poor discharged workmen who had been employed in the improvements on the grounds at Claremont. Thus the first thought which he allowed to interfere with his deep sense of his overwhelming loss, was an attention to the comforts of others. This was indeed the noblest and wisest mode of soothing his sorrows; though, at the same time, it makes our regret the keener, that such a mind should have had such cause for anguish.

The visit of the Duke of Gloucester, on the Sunday, lasted for three hours: he went and retired in that private manner which was best suited to the melancholy occasion. The Duchess of York rode over from Oatlands in the evening, for the purpose of condoling with his Serene Highness. Lord Castlereagh went the following morning at ten o'clock with the same object, but his visit was a very short one. The Prince Regent also, after an affecting interview with the Queen at Windsor, on the Sunday, expressed a wish to go to Claremont to see Prince Leopold; but he was advised, for both their sakes, to delay the visit for a day or two. Though his Royal Highness was exceedingly depressed, his health upon the whole was stated not to have sustained any very material injury. The Queen and Princesses, at Windsor, continued deeply affected: and the gloomy appearance of

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the town of Windsor, all the shops being partially shut, increased the melancholy felt by all ranks and ages. Prince Leopold himself carried about him the deepest impression of silent sorrow. Some slight amendment took place in his bodily health, and his rest at night was less disturbed. Another bulletin was issued about this time, and signed by his own resident physician, who came to England with him; it was as follows:—

"*November* 10.

"His Serene Highness the Prince Leopold has passed rather a calm night, and is something better this morning."

In consequence of the death of the Princess Charlotte, almost all the workmen employed about the improvements at Claremont, were temporarily discharged; for what pleasure could be derived from them, when she whose taste had planned, and whose presence endeared them, was no more? The forlorn situation of these workmen would alone have excited commiseration; but the strongest sympathy was felt, when even the sturdiest of them were seen melted in tears, more for the loss of their benefactress than for their own misfortune.

In the outward tribute, and in the more genuine expression of affectionate sorrow, which was manifested throughout the nation, on this melancholy occasion, the people of England shewed as much

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discrimination as sensibility; for the public and private character of the Princess was such as to conciliate love and esteem in exact proportion as it was seen and known. Her state was not supported by ostentation, her greatness was not asserted by pride, her dignity did not estrange her from the lowly and the poor. Raised above the great mass of society, she, notwithstanding, deeply felt her alliance with the universal family of the earth; she delighted to partake in their sympathies, to assuage their misfortunes, to merit by her benevolence the homage which was paid to her rank. It was the knowledge of these her virtues that has made the public mourning so deep and general. In dwelling upon them the mind naturally associates them with those of her consort, of whom it is the greatest honor, and yet not too great a one, to say, that he deserved to be the husband of such a woman.

The mental sufferings of Prince Leopold were at this time so acute, and so fixed, as to create the greatest concern, if not alarm, to all who approached him; he spoke but little, and passed the most disturbed nights. The Royal Family were most anxious and attentive in their efforts to console him. The Prince Regent would have gone to him immediately after the mournful event, but Prince Leopold wished for a few days to elapse, previous to his seeing the father of the Princess. On the 10th, however, in the afternoon, his Royal Highness went to Claremont, and saw

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his son-in-law. The particulars of this affecting interview have never transpired; and that curiosity must be of a cruel nature which would wish to intrude upon the over-whelming grief of a father and a husband, meeting for the first time after their mutual and irreparable loss. Misery is a sacred thing, and of all miseries this must be the most sacred. The interview lasted for several hours, during which such silence reigned in the house, that it might be supposed to have been forsaken by its inhabitants. It was, indeed, the mansion of death, silent and appalling. The Prince Regent returned late in the evening to Carlton-House.

In the course of the day, Prince Leopold received visits of condolence from the Earl of Liverpool and Prince Esterhazy; their visits, like that of Lord Castlereagh on the preceding day, were short; for the dejection of the Prince was such, as to render any stay or conversation, except that of the dearest relative, intrusive. The Duke of Sussex, probably from a feeling of this kind, made no personal visit, but sent to make the most affectionate inquiries. His Royal Highness, who is known to have entertained the highest esteem and love for his illustrious niece, was proportionably afflicted at her loss.

The health of the Queen was visibly impaired by the fatal event. Her Majesty on the 11th, received a visit from the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, who had been since Sunday morn-

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ing residing at Carlton-House, for the purpose of soothing the melancholy of the Prince Regent, whose health, at this time, was in the most precarious state. He refused all comfort, except such as arose from some association with the memory of his beloved daughter. A portrait of the Princess, which was under the hands of Sir Thomas Lawrence, was ordered home in its unfinished state; it was placed in the room which his Royal Highness constantly occupies, and he frequently sat before it, contemplating the well-known lineaments:—

Animum pictura pascit inani.

In the Gazette of the 7th appeared the following notice for the general mourning, to commence on Sunday the 9th *:

The Deputy Earl Marshal's order for a general mourning for her late Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte Augusta, daughter of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, and consort of his Serene Highness the Prince Leopold of Saxe-Cobour .

In pursuance of the commands of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, these are to give public notice, that it is expected that, upon the present most melancholy occasion of the death of her late Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte Augusta, daughter of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, and consort of his Serene Highness the Prince Leopold of Saxe-Cobourg, all per-

* It is curious to compare this notice with those which were issued on the death of George I. and George II.

" *London*

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sons do put themselves into decent mourning; the said mourning to begin on Sunday next, the 9th instant.

H. H. M. HOWARD,
7th November. Deputy Earl Marshal.

Turning from the painful recollection of her whom we have lost, to the consideration of the public interests affected by the sad event, the first, the weightiest in political importance, that

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"*London Gazette, Tuesday, June* 20, 1727. (*Price* 2*d.*)

"The Lord Marshal's order for a general mourning for his late Majesty King George, of blessed memory.

"In pursuance of an order of his present Majesty at Leicester-house, the 16th of June, 1727, these are to give public notice, That it is expected that all persons upon the present occasion of the death of his late Majesty, of blessed memory, do put themselves in the deepest mourning (long cloaks excepted); the said mourning to begin on Sunday, the 25th instant. And that, as well all Lords as Privy Councillors and Officers of his Majesty's Household, do cover their coaches, chariots, and chairs, and clothe their livery servants with black cloth, by Sunday, the 2d of July. And that no person whatsoever, for the first six months, put any escutcheons of arms painted on their coaches; nor use any varnished or bullion nails to be seen on their coaches, chariots, or chairs. His Majesty is pleased to permit his military officers to appear before him in red, faced with black.

(Signed) SUSSEX, M."

"These are to give public notice, That it is His Majesty's farther command, that all Lords, Privy Councillors and Officers of His Majesty's household, who have been ordered to put their Livery Servants in black cloth, do also make them wear shoulder-knots or ribands of the colour of their liveries.

(Signed) SUSSEX, M."

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indeed which seemed to absorb and swallow up all others, is, THE SUCCESSION TO THE THRONE. In a monarchy like ours, the circumstance is of paramount import. We had fondly expected that the promising union of the hopeful pair had removed all apprehension on that head. We had pictured to ourselves a family of English princes, brought up under our eyes, in English habits and principles; succeeding, without doubt or disturbance, to the throne of their ancestors; and wielding the sceptre, as we have seen it wielded for above half a century, by our venerable Monarch, and his son the Regent. But now that the mother and child are both at once taken from us, the prospect is, we regret to say, by no means clear and satisfactory. The common ancestor of all the heirs, whom it is at all necessary to include in this calculation, is Frederick Prince of Wales, the father of our revered Sovereign George III., and of the late Duke of Gloucester, the late Duchess of Brunswick, and the late Queen of Denmark; all of whom have left representatives still surviving. The act of settlement, it is well known, limits the succession to the heirs, being protestant, of the Electress Sophia of Hanover, grand-daughter of King James I. Her son George I. came to the throne in virtue of this act; and from him it descended to George II., father of the Prince of Wales, whom we have mentioned. The crown descends lineally to the issue of the reigning monarch, with a right of primogeniture; first, among sons, and then

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among daughters; and the lineal descendant of any person deceased stands in the same place, as their ancestors, if living, would have done. With this short explanation, it is apprehended, that the subjoined scheme will be easily understood, as bringing, under one view, the existing individuals in succession to the throne. They are arranged in the legal order of succession; annexed are their respective ages; and the relationship of each to the head of the branch through which they derive their title, is marked by letters signifying son, grandson, great grandson, daughter, grand-daughter, &c. As some individuals derive by more than one title, they are enumerated as often as their rights occur, a reference being made to their former places.

DESCENDANTS OF GEORGE III., ELDEST SON OF FREDERIC, PRINCE OF WALES, WHO WAS GREAT GRANDSON OF THE ELECTRESS SOPHIA.

	Ages.
1 George Prince Regent, S.	55
2 Frederick Duke of York, S.	54
3 William Henry Duke of Clarence, S.	52
4 Edward Duke of Kent, S.	50
5 Ernest Duke of Cumberland, S.	46
6 Augustus Duke of Suffolk, S.	44
7 Adolphus Duke of Cambridge, S.	43
8 Charlotte of England, Queen Dow. of Wurtemburg, D.	51
9 Augusta of England, D.	49
10 Elizabeth of England, D.	47
11 Mary of England, Duchess of Gloucester, D.	41
12 Sophia of England, D.	40

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II. DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM HENRY, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, YOUNGER SON OF FREDERICK PRINCE OF WALES.

	Ages.
13 William Duke of Gloucester, S.	41
14 Sophia of Gloucester, D.	44

III. DESCENDANTS OF AUGUSTA OF ENGLAND, DUCHESS OF BRUNSWICK, ELDER DAUGHTER OF FREDERICK, PRINCE OF WALES, [She died 1813.]

15 Charles Duke of Brunswick, G. S.	13
16 William of Brunswick, G. S.	12
17 Augustus of Brunswick, S.	48
18 Frederick King of Wurtemburg, G. S.	36
19 Mary of Wurtemburg, G. G. D.	1
20 Paul of Wurtemburg, G. S.	32
21 Frederick Charles of Wurtemburg, G. G. S.	9
22 Frederick Augustus of Wurtemburg, G. G. S.	4
23 Frederick of Wurtemburg, G. G. D.	10
24 Pauline of Wurtemburg, G. G. D.	7
25 Frederica Cath. of Wurtemburg, wife of J. Buonaparte, G. D.	34
26 Jerome Napoleon, G. G. S.	3
27 Caroline of Brunswick, Princess of Wales, D.	49

IV. DESCENDANTS OF MATILDA OF ENGLAND, QUEEN OF DENMARK, YOUNGER DAUGHTER OF FREDERICK PRINCE OF WALES, [She died 1775.]

28 Frederic King of Denmark, S.	49
29 Caroline of Denmark, G. D.	24
30 Wilhelmina of Denmark, G. D.	9
31 Louisa of Denmark, Duchess of Holstein, D.	46
32 Christian Duke of Holstein, G. S.	19
33 Caroline of Holstein, G. D.	21

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V. DESCENDANTS OF ANNE OF ENGLAND, PRINCESS OF ORANGE, ELDEST DAUGHTER OF GEORGE II. [She died 1759.]

		Ages
34	William King of the Netherlands, G. S.	45
35	William Prince of Orange, G. G. S.	52
36	William of Orange, G. G. G. S.	1
37	Frederick of Orange, G. G. S.	20
38	Wilhelmina of Orange, G. G. D.	17
39	Frederica of Orange, Duchess Dowager of Brunswick, G. D.	4
40	No. 15, G. G. S. } her sons.	
41	No. 16, G. G. S. }	
42	Frederick William, Count Nassau Weilbourg, G. S.	49
43	George William of Nassau Weilbourg, G. G. S.	25

VI. DESCENDANTS OF MARY OF ENGLAND, LANDGRAVINE OF HESSE-CASSEL, NEXT DAUGHTER OF GEORGE II. [She died 1772.]

44	George William, Elector of Hesse-Cassel, S.	74
45	William Prince of Hesse, G. S.	40
46	Frederick of Hesse, G. G. S.	15
47	Caroline of Hesse, G. G. D.	18
48	Mary Louisa of Hesse, G. G. D.	16
49	Charles of Hesse, S.	73
50	Frederick of Hesse, G. S.	46
51	Christian of Hesse, G. S.	48
52	Mary of Hesse, Queen of Denmark, G. D.	50
53	No. 29, G. G. D. } her children.	
54	No. 30, G. G. D. }	
55	Julia of Hesse, G. D.	44
56	Louisa of Hesse, G. D.	28
57	Frederick of Hesse, S.	70
58	William of Hesse, G. S.	30
59	Frederick of Hesse, G. S.	27
60	George of Hesse, G. S.	21
61	Louisa of Hesse, G. D.	23

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Ages

62 Mary of Hesse, G. D. 21
63 Augusta of Hesse, G. D. 20

VII. DESCENDANTS OF LOUISA OF ENGLAND, QUEEN OF DENMARK, NEXT DAUGHTER OF GEORGE II. [She died 1751.]

64 No. 28, G. S.
65 No. 53, No. 29, G. G. D.
66 No. 54, No. 30, G. G. D.
67 No. 31. G. D.
68 Sophia of Denmark, Queen of Sweden, D. 71
69 Gustavus King of Sweden, G. S. 39
70 Gustavus of Sweden, G. G. S. 18
71 Sophia of Sweden, G. G. D. 16
72 Amelia of Sweden, G. G. D. 12
73 Wilhelmina of Denmark, Electress of Hesse-Cassel, D. 70
74 No. 45, G. S.
75 No. 46, G. G. S. } her children.
76 No. 47, G. G. D.
77 No. 48, G. G. D.
78 Louisa of Denmark, wife of Charles of Hesse-Cassel, [No. 48] D. 67
79 No. 50, G. S.
80 No. 51, G. S.
81 No. 52, G. D. } her descendants.
82 Nos. 65, 53, 29, G. G. D.
83 Nos. 66, 54, 30, G. G. D.

VIII. DESCENDANTS OF SOPHIA OF ENGLAND, QUEEN OF PRUSSIA, ONLY DAUGHTER OF GEORGE I. [She died 1757.]

84 Frederick William III. King of Prussia, G. G. S. .. 46
85 Frederick William, Prince of Prussia, G. G. G. S. .. 22
86 Frederick Lewis of Prussia, G. G. G. S. 20
87 Frederick Charles of Prussia, G. G. G. S. 16
88 Frederick Henry of Prussia, G. G. G. S. 14

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Ages

89 Wilhelmina of Prussia, G. G. G. D. 14
90 Louisa of Prussia, G. G. G. D. 9
91 William Frederick of Prussia, G. G. G. S. 23
92 Frederica of Prussia, G. G. G. D. 21
93 Frederick Charles Henry of Prussia, G. G. S. 36
94 Frederick William Charles, G. G. S. 34
95 Henry of Prussia, G. G. G. S. 6
96 Mary of Prussia, G. G. G. D. 2
97 Frederica of Prussia, Duchess of York, G. G. D 50
98 Wilhelmina of Prussia, Queen of the Netherlands, G. G. D. 43

99 No. 35, G. G. G. S.
100 No. 36, G. G. G. S.
101 No. 7, G. G. G. S.
102 No. 38, G. G. G. D.
} her children.

103 Christina of Prussia, Princess of Hesse-Cassel, G. G. D. 40

104 No. 46, G. G. G. S.
105 No. 47, G. G. G. S.
106 No. 48, G. G. G. D.
} her children.

107 Frederica of Prussia, Princess Dowager of Orange, G. D. .....

108 No. 34, G. G. G. S
109 No. 99, No. 35, G. G. S.
110 No. 100, No. 36, G. G. G. G. S.
111 No. 101, No. 37, G. G. G. S.
112 No. 102, No. 38, G. G. G. D.
113 No. 39, G. G. D.
114 No. 40, No. 14, G. G. G. S.
115 No. 41, No. 15, G. G. G. S.
} her descendants.

116 Frederick William of Prussia, G. S. 37
117 Frederica Dorothea of Prussia, Princess Radzivil, G. D. 47
118 No. 69, G. G. S.
119 No. 70, G. G. G. S.
120 No. 71, G. G. G. D.
121 No. 72, G. G. G. D.
122 Charles XIII. King of Sweden, G. S. 69
123. Sophia of Sweden, Abbess of Quedlenberg, G. D. .. 64

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From the foregoing account it will be seen, that the three persons nearest the throne, being married and having children, are the King of Wurtemberg, Prince Paul his brother, and the Princess Frederica Buonaparte, their sister. This would be a grievous prospect, if we did not recollect, that although there is now no grandchild of George III., yet all his sons, and probably more than one of his daughters, are still of an age at which a proper marriage might be hoped to produce offspring. The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester are little more than forty years of age, and have been not much above a year married. It must, however, be confessed, that, until we have a more certain prospect of issue from the British branch, the public attention will be turned to the two young Princes of Brunswick, the sons and grandsons of the two illustrious Dukes of Brunswick who lost their lives in the fields of Jena and Waterloo. These young princes were educated in England; but that is but a small alleviation of the repugnance we feel at having a foreign king; and this is a consideration which enhances and embitters all the regrets which the loss of our own lovely and excellent Princess excites.

Our readers will not fail to observe with interest, the state of the electoral family of Hesse, the venerable age of the Elector and his two brothers, and their numerous children and grandchildren; and the circumstance, that the three wives of the three elder princes are still living, (two of them

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being in their own right, as well as their husbands, in succession to the British crown,) will not be easily paralleled.

Some doubts are entertained respecting Nos. 17 and 117. No. 17, Augustus of Brunswick, brother to the late Duke; we have not heard of him for some time past, but conclude he is still alive. No. 117—We believe that Frederica of Prussia has children, but have no means of ascertaining.

The only inconvenience seriously to be apprehended, if we can banish from our minds the loss of a Princess whose virtues justified a hope that she would indeed have been a British and a constitutional monarch, is that which would arise from a rapid succession of short reigns. A curious calculation has been made on this subject. There are fourteen English Princes and Princesses who stand in the order which has been already given. The following table is formed on a medium between the Northampton table of observations, and the probability of life in London. The females are marked (F.):

	Age.	*Probability of Life.*		*Length of Reign.*	
	YEARS.	Y.	M.	Y.	M.
No. 1	56th	14	4	14	4
2	55th	14	10	0	6
3	53d	15	8	0	10
4	51st	16	6	0	10
5	47th	18	3	1	9
6	45th	19	2	0	11
		Carried forward		19	8

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	Age. YEARS.	Probability of Life. Y.	M.	Length of Reign. Y.	M.
		Brought forward		19	2
No. 7	44th	19	7	0	5
8 (F)	52d	16	1	0	0
9 (F)	50th	17	0	0	0
10 (F)	48th	17	10	0	0
11 (F)	42d	20	5	0	10
12 (F)	41st	20	10	0	5
13	42d	20	5	0	0
14 (F)	45th	19	2	0	0
				20	10

From this table it appears, that on the common probabilities of life, as applied to each individual, supposing none of them to have issue, there would be in the next twenty-one years nine reigns, two of them female ones; and that after the first there would be no reign longer than twenty-one months, and two as short as five months.

The evening of the 15th of November was the time appointed for the final enclosure of the body of the most exalted and beloved of Princesses in her state coffin, &c. Mr. Marsh, of the Lord Chamberlain's Office, arrived early to superintend the proceedings, which were arranged so to take place, that the feelings of Prince Leopold might not be harassed by the sight or knowledge of any thing that was going on; and at seven o'clock, when his Serene Highness retired to his private room, the Reverend Dr. Short, and Dr. Stockmar, his resident physician, accompanied him; and it was so arranged that they were to remain constantly with him, to

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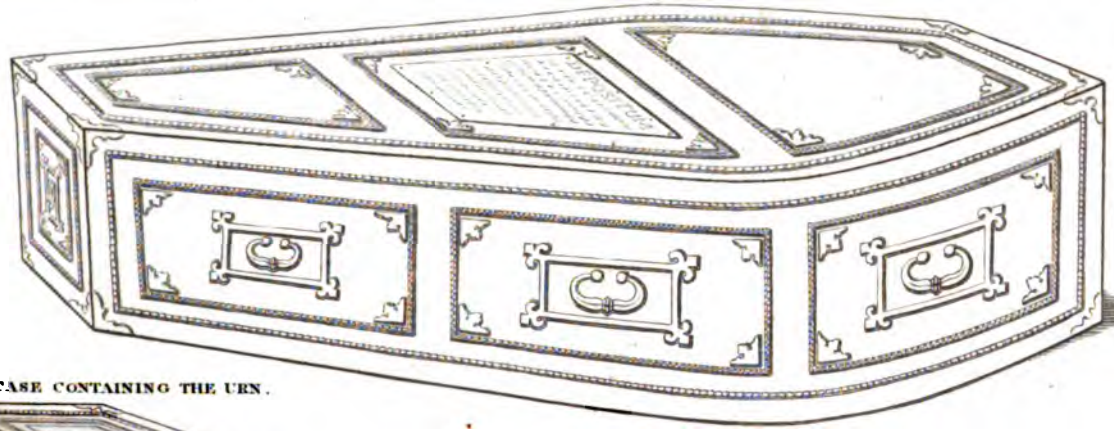
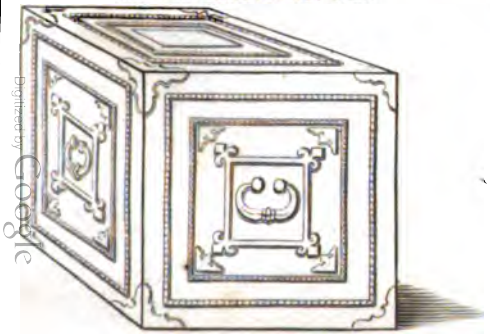
THE STATE COFFIN, OF THE PRINCESS CHARLOTTE AUGUSTA.

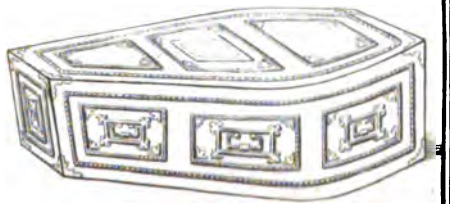


THE CASE CONTAINING THE URN.



THE CORONET & CUSHION.

THE COFFIN OF THE INFANT.



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London Published by THOMAS KELLY, Paternoster Row, [illegible]

engage his attention. Soon after the retirement of the Prince, the plumbers attending for that purpose, proceeded to solder the lead coffin. The removal of the state coffin from London to Claremont had been very judiciously arranged; it left the house of Messrs. France and Banting, in Pall-mall, between five and six o'clock, in a hearse drawn by four horses, followed by a mourning coach, in which were the outside urn, and the outside coffin for the infant; another mourning coach followed, in which were Mr. Banting, one of the royal undertakers, and his assistants. They proceeded on the road in a private manner, unnoticed, and only halted for a short time at Kingston Bottom, to rest and feed the horses. They arrived a little before ten o'clock, and entered the park and the house by the back entrance, in the most solemn silence. The state coffin was then conveyed to the bedroom, where the remains of the Princess were deposited in the inner mahogany coffin, enclosed in a lead coffin; they were lifted into the state coffin, which is of mahogany, covered with the richest crimson velvet, ornamented in the most splendid and elegant style, and far surpassing any thing of the kind that has ever been executed. The handles, which have on former occasions been only resembling those of trunk handles, have been executed in a manner to have the effect of very handsome ornaments, highly finished, and embossed with very superior workmanship. The urn is ornamented in a similar manner. The

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coffin of the infant is covered with crimson velvet, the ornaments of silver; those of the Princess's coffin and urn are highly gilt. The plate on the Princess's coffin was engraved by Mr. Gilbert, the King's goldsmith, in Cockspur-street. The spectators of this mournful and heart-rending performance were—the Baron Hardenbroke, Sir R. Gardiner, Colonel Addenbrook, Lady J. Thynne, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Papenbourg, &c.

The great object in facilitating this solemn performance, was to have the whole completed before eleven o'clock, being the hour at which his Serene Highness nightly visited the remains of his beloved Princess after her decease, to weep over them, previous to his retiring to his bed. Happily, the whole was accomplished before the clock struck eleven, and the persons employed in the operations retired from view; so that when the Prince entered the room, he only beheld one coffin substituted for another. The regular bulletins respecting Prince Leopold were now discontinued; the general answer to the numerous inquiries after his health, announcing the gradual return of his mind to a state of tranquillity. Divine service was regularly performed by Dr. Short, as usual. The Duke of York paid another visit about this time to the Prince. Viscount Melville, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Canning, likewise paid visits of condolence. It was a very remarkable circumstance that Messrs. France and Banting, who conducted this

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funeral, are the same establishment which has conducted the funerals of the Royal Family for upwards of seventy years past, during which time there has been always one of Mr. France's relatives in the firm of the house.

THE URN FOR THE HEART.

This is a simple square case of Honduras mahogany, covered, like the coffin, with rich Genoa crimson velvet, and the sides and top formed into pannels, with gilt nails. There are also corner-plates, bearing a crown, the initials of the Princess, and two palm branches. On the lid is a gilt plate bearing a crown, the letters P. C. A., and the date of her Royal Highness's death, 6th November, 1817. It is lined with white satin.

THE COFFIN OF THE INFANT.

This, like that of the parent, is of mahogany, covered with crimson velvet, and formed into pannels, with white plated nails. The lining is of white satin. The handles are also of plated metal. On the lid is a plated sheet of metal, on which is engraved the following inscription :—

The still-born male Infant
of their
Royal and Serene Highnesses
The Princess Charlotte Augusta,
and
Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg.
November 6, 1817.

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The following is the depositum on the coffin:—

"DEPOSITUM
Illustrissimæ Principissæ CHARLOTTÆ AUGUSTÆ,
Illustrissimi Principis GEORGII AUGUSTI FREDERICI,
Principis Walliæ, Britanniarum Regentis,
Filiæ Unicæ;
Consortisque Serenissimi Principis LEOPOLDI
GEORGII
FREDERICI, Ducis Saxoniæ, Marchionis Misniæ,
Landgravii Thuringiæ, Principis Coburgi
Saalfendensis, Exercitum Regis Marescalli,
Majestati
Regiæ a Sanctioribus Consiliis Nobilissimi,
Ordinis Periscelidis et Honoratissimi Ordinis
Militaris de Balneo Equitis:
Obiit 6ta die Novembris, anno Domini
MDCCCXVII. ætatis suæ XXII."

TRANSLATION.

The Remains
Of the most Illustrious Princess Charlotte Augusta,
The only Daughter of George Augustus Frederic,
Prince of Wales,
Regent of Great Britain,
Consort of his Serene Highness Prince Leopold
George Frederick, Duke of Saxony,
Margrave of Misnia, Landgrave of Thuringia,
Prince of Coburg Saalfeld,
Marshal in His Majesty's Army,
Privy Councillor, Knight of the Noble Order
Of the Garter and the Bath, &c.:
She died on the 6th of November, in the Year of our Lord 1817,
And in the 22d year of her age.

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The removal of the bodies of the Princess and the royal infant from Claremont being fixed for six o'clock on the evening of the 18th November, the hearse which was to convey the deceased Princess for ever from the place of which so lately she was the grace, the delight, and pride, arrived at Esher about ten o'clock in the morning. It was drawn by eight black horses, and followed by five mourning carriages, two with six, the rest with four black horses. At five o'clock, a numerous party of the Tenth, (or Prince's Own) Regiment of Hussars, arrived, and were stationed in the Park, near the paling, to prevent disorder. Care was taken that these sombre accompaniments of death should not be obtruded on the sight of Prince Leopold till the last minute, when he was to be summoned to share in the melancholy procession, which would lead his beloved consort to the dreary solitude which separates her for ever from the living. At five o'clock, the hearse drew up to the grand entrance of the house; and, shortly after, the coffin was enclosed in it. The Prince, with feelings not to be described, and with a countenance and manner too distressing to look upon, stept into the coach to follow that lifeless corpse, which was lately all animated with generous affection, with ever-springing kindness, and frank, confiding liveliness of soul. To have loved such a being, it was only necessary to appreciate her: but at the same time none but the good can have a perfect appreciation of the good;

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and therefore it is, that the people of England esteem this Prince, because they see, in his devoted attachment to his deceased wife, a sure proof that he was worthy of her. The interest taken in such a man cannot be too great, but it is as great as it can be: the old inquire about him as about a son, the young as about a brother. A mourning coach and six followed, and the coffin, containing the infant and urn, was brought out, and placed in the coach: directly after, Sir Robert Gardiner and Colonel Addenbrook followed and entered the coach. The Baron Hardenbroke, two Gentlemen Ushers, Lady J. Thynne, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Phillips, &c., went in the other mourning coaches. Every thing was conducted with the greatest regularity and solemnity; nothing was heard but the deep sighs of afflicted spectators, who were admitted into the Park. The whole was arranged by Mr. Marsh, of the Lord Chamberlain's office, and Mr. Banting, the undertaker. The procession began to move before half-past six o'clock, preceded by upwards of 30 horsemen, three a-breast, in full mourning. The whole was followed by a party of the Tenth Dragoons. Both Walton and Hampton-court bridges were mentioned confidently as roads for the procession. It was, however, finally determined to go over Walton-bridge, in consequence of the Commander-in-Chief having ordered General Bolton to direct a party to ride over the two roads, and report which was the best; and in consequence of their

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report being in favour of Walton, that route was preferred.

Great numbers of horsemen and pedestrians followed: the bells of the different churches in the towns and villages through which it passed, tolled in solemn sounds. The roads were thronged with spectators, and every house was closed. At Egham, the escort of the Tenth Hussars was relieved by the Royal Horse Guards, who had left Windsor about eight o'clock for that purpose. The procession did not enter Windsor till a little before two o'clock, where a great concourse of people had been waiting some hours. The remains of the Princess were received at the Lower Lodge, by the yeomen of the guard, who carried the coffin: a guard of honour from the Third Regiment of Foot Guards were stationed outside of the Lodge. Prince Leopold, his attendants, and others, in the mourning coaches, alighted at the Lodge. The coach, containing the body of the infant and the urn, drove to the chapel, where it was received by the Honourable and Reverend Dr. Hobart, the Dean, the Reverend Mr. Northey, and the Reverend Dr. Cookson. The Dean stood with his back to the west in the chapel, the Rev. Mr. Northey, and the Rev. Dr. Cookson on each side of him. The most profound silence was observed by all; eight yeomen of the guard standing round. The body and the urn were then gradually lowered, by a windlass, into the royal cemetery; two of the yeomen descending

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to receive them. They were deposited temporarily on a shelf, previous to being placed on the coffin of the Princess. No service took place, but an awful stillness was preserved. This was the whole of the ceremony.

The procession entered Windsor at night without flambeaux or any other lights, at a slow and half-foot pace. The military were obliged occasionally to halt, to accommodate the movement of the funeral. It was a fine night, and the moon had shown brightly all the way from Claremont till the procession reached the town of Windsor; but here, in a remarkable manner, the sky became overcast, the moon was lost in clouds, and darkness ensued; a sudden change, which visibly affected thousands of spectators, who behaved with the utmost decorum, and afterwards retired to their respective homes, filled with sorrow.

Numbers were disappointed at Windsor, who expected the Princess to lie in state; whereas, on account of the smallness of the premises, and the want of passages to enter and retire, those only were admitted who had tickets. The unabated grief of Prince Leopold was another cause of disappointment in this object. His Serene Highness had expressed his intention to sit up all night with the corpse of the Princess, or at least to visit it. He did so during the night, and again at eight o'clock the next morning. The room through

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which the corpse passed was hung with black cloth; and the adjoining room where it was placed was fitted up in a style of state: a large black velvet pall lay on the coffin, with a broad white border reaching to the ground, which, as well as the whole room, was covered with black cloth. On the coffin was the Princess's coronet, and at the head of the coffin, against the wall, was a large silk escutcheon. Three large wax candles were on each side of the coffin, also numerous small wax candles on all sides of the room. The gentlemen of the College of Arms were employed during the morning in arranging the stalls in the chapel for the Knights of the Garter, &c. The machinery for lowering the corps into the vault was completed.

On Wednesday, Nov. 19, being the day of interment, the parish church of Windsor was thronged to hear divine service, and a sermon was preached by the Rev. Isaac Gossett. The learned divine took his text from the 7th chapter of the Revelation, verse 17, "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." The discourse was truly eloquent and impressive. The 39th Psalm was chanted as an anthem by the choristers. At noon fresh numbers arrived, among whom were many of the nobility, who were accommodated with apartments in the Queen's Lodge. The shops were all shut up closely, and the streets were filled with people, whose mournful countenances depicted their grief. At eight in the

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evening, the funeral procession of the Princess set out from the lower lodge to the chapel. There were no torch lights, nor beating of drum. Prince Leopold, attended by Baron Hardenbroke, and Dr. Stockman, followed the hearse in a mourning coach and six. Then came two carriages of his Serene Highness. Five mourning coaches empty, concluded the procession.

The chapel then presented a most imposing appearance: the lower division of the building was lined with military, bearing flambeaux; the recesses of the aisles behind the military were filled with strangers from all parts of the kingdom, but who were ill rewarded for their extraordinary anxiety by being thrust into corners, where they could scarcely see more of the procession than if they had remained at home. Sixty persons were admitted by special tickets into the organ-loft, but of these not above ten could see what was passing in the choir. This was ill-judged; for, in a case where the whole nation felt as one man, it would have become those who had the direction of the melancholy rites, to show a corresponding anxiety, and the public should have been gratified with every accommodation which could possibly have been afforded. Nothing of this kind, however, was done. Of the immense multitude that poured down to Windsor, it may be reckoned that not above twenty persons (exclusive of the nobility) could witness the melancholy ceremonial of the consignment of their beloved Princess to the grave.

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THE FUNERAL PROCESSION OF THE PRINCESS CHARLOTTE AT WINDSOR Nov. 23. 1817

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We had ourselves, however, the opportunity of seeing what took place, and are thereby enabled to satisfy the ardent curiosity of the Public.

On Wednesday evening, the 19th of November, soon after eight o'clock, the remains of her late Royal Highness were removed from the Lower Lodge to St. George's Chapel, in the following order :—

Servants and Grooms of her late Royal Highness, and of his Serene Highness, on foot, in deep mourning.

Servants and Grooms of the Royal Family, the Prince Regent, and their Majesties on foot, in full liveries, with crape hat-bands, and black gloves, four and four, bearing flambeaux.

Guard of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue.)

The full band of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue.)

The HEARSE,

(Drawn by eight of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent's black horses, fully caparisoned, each horse attended by a groom in full state livery.

His Majesty's body carriage,

(Drawn by a full set of His Majesty's horses, each horse attended by a groom in full state livery,)

conveying

His Serene Highness the Prince Leopold,

Chief Mourner,

and

Their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York and Clarence,

Supporters to the Chief Mourner.

Guard of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue.)

The carriages of the Prince Regent, the Royal Family, and the Prince Leopold, each drawn by six horses, closed the procession.

The whole procession, from the Lower Lodge to St. George's Chapel, was flanked by the military, every fourth man bearing a flambeau.

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Upon the arrival at St. George's Chapel, the servants, grooms, and band, filed off without the south door.

At the entrance the Dean and Canons, attended by the choir, received the body; and the procession, (which had been formed under the direction of Sir George Nayler, Knt. York Herald, executing this part of the duty on behalf of Garter), being flanked by the Foot Guards, every fourth man bearing a flambeau, moved down the south aisle, and up the nave, in the following order:—

Poor Knights of Windsor.

Pages of their Royal Highnesses the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, and Sophia,

Mr. Harding, Mr. Moore, Mr. Gollop.

Pages of the Prince Leopold,

Mr. Ammershaber, Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Lyons, Mr. Fairbairn, Mr. Hewett,
Mr. Heock, Mr. Bagster,
Mr. James Sims, Mr. Thomas Poole,
Mr. Henry Forschütz, Mr. Paul Mechin.

Pages of His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester,

Mr. Hart, Mr. J. Moss,
Mr. J. Venables.

Pages of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge,

Mr. Urlin, Mr. Sams.

Pages of His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex,

Mr. Redbourne, Mr. Blackman.

Pages of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland,

Mr. Salisbury, Mr. Gaspar Perelion,
Mr. J. Ball, Mr. Paulet.

Pages of his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence,

Mr. Redwood, Mr. Jemmett,
Mr. Hutt, Mr. Robinson.

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Pages of his Royal Highness the Duke of York,

Mr. Lumley, Mr. Silvester, Mr. Gibbon,
Mr. Worley, Mr. Kendal, Mr. Frantz,
Mr. Goodes, Mr. Shell, Mr. Patte.

Pages of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, viz.,

Pages of the Back Stairs,

Samuel Wharton,

Charles Becket, Benjamin Lucas.

Pages of the Presence,

Joseph Ince, Thomas Messenger,
John Dobell, George Wedgberrow.

Pages of the Bed-chamber,

Jenkins Stradling, Joseph Norden,
Robert Jenkins, Samuel Bowtell,
John Wood, Charles Downes, Esqrs.

Pages of Her Majesty,

Christopher Papendick, H. F. Grobecker,
William Duncan, Daniel Robinson, Esqrs.

Pages of His Majesty,

Joseph Bott, John Clarke,
Anthony Healy, William Baker,
John Bott, Henry Cooper, W. Smart, Esqrs

Solicitor to her late Royal Highness,

John Smallpeace, Gent.

Apothecaries of her late Royal Highness,

Mr. Richard Walker, Mr. E. Brande.

Surgeons of her late Royal Highness,

Mr. Neville, Mr. Robert Keate.

Rector of the Parish of Esher,

Reverend J. Diggle.

Sergeant Surgeons to the King.

Sir David Dundas, Bart. Sir Everard Home, Bart.

Physician to the Prince Leopold.

Christian Stockmar, M. D.

Physicians who attended her late Royal Highness,

John Sims, M. D. Matthew Baillie, M. D.
Sir Richard Croft, Bart. M. D.

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Chaplains to her Royal Highness, and to his Serene Highness the Prince Leopold,

The Rev. Alex. Starkey, The Rev. William Kuper.
The Rev. J. Hammond, The Rev. Dr. Short.

Equerry to her late Royal Highness.
Lieut.-Col. the Hon. Henry Percy.

Equerries to his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester,
Edmund Currey, Esq. Lieut.-Col. Samuel G. Higgins,

Equerries to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge,
Captain White. Lieut.-Col. Count Linsingen.

Equerry to his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex,
H. F. Stephenson, Esq.

Equerries to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland,
Captain Jones.
Major Frederick Poten. Colonel Charles Wade Thornton.

Equerries to his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent,
Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Henry Carr, K.C.B.
Major General James Moore, Lieutenant General Frederick Augustus Wetherall.

Equerries to his Royal Highness the Duke of York.
Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. James Stanhope, Lieutenant-Colonel Delancy Barclay.

Equerries to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent,
Col. Seymour, Maj.-Gen. Sir R. Hussey Vivian, K.C.B.
Sir William Congreve, Bart.

Clerk Marshal and First Equerry,
Lieutenant General Francis Thomas Hammond.

Military Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief,
Major-General Sir Henry Torrens, K.C.B.

Quarter-Master-General. Adjutant-General.
Sir J. Willoughby Gordon, K.C.B. Sir Harry Calvert, G.C. B.

Officers of the Duchy of Cornwall, viz.,
Solicitor-General, Attorney-General.
William Harrison, Esq. William Draper Best, Esq.

Lord Warden of the Stannaries.
The Earl of Yarmouth.

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Chancellor and Keeper of the Great Seal.
John Leach, Esq.
Chamberlain to the Great Steward of Scotland,
Admiral Lord Viscount Keith, G.C.B.
Grooms of the Bedchamber to the Prince Regent,
Ad. Sir G. Campbell, K.C.B. Gen. Hon. Sir E. Paget, G.C.B.
Lt.-Gen. Sir T. H. Turner, Kt. Gen. Sir W. Keppel, G.C.B.
Gen. Sir John F. Cradock, G.C.B. Lt.-Gen. Hon. E. Finch.
Pursuivants of Arms.
Portcullis.
G. F. Beltz, Esq.

Rouge Dragon,	Bluemantle,
C. G. Young, Esq.	F. Martin, Gent.

Treasurer of the Prince Regent's Household,
Lord Charles Bentinck.
Heralds of Arms,

Somerset.	Richmond,
J. Cathrow, Esq.	J. Hawker, Esq.
Lancaster,	Chester,
E. Lodge, Esq.	G. M. Leake, Esq.

Privy Purse and Private Secretary to the Prince Regent,
The Right Honourable Sir Benjamin Bloomfield.
Lords of the Prince Regent's Bedchamber,

Right Hon. Lord Amherst,	Right Hon. Lord Graves,
The Earl Delaware,	Lord Viscount Lake,
Lord James Murray,	Lord Viscount Melbourne,
Marquess of Headfort,	Lord Charles Spencer.

E. Townsend, Esq. Windsor Herald,
acting for
Norroy, King of Arms.
Rt. Hon. Lord Ellenborough. Rt. Hon. Lord Grenville.
Lord Bishop of Exeter. Ld. Bishop of Salisbury, C. G.
The Lord Bishop of London.
The Minister of State of Hanover, and the Minister of Saxony,
Count Munster, Baron de Just.
The Deputy Earl Marshal.
Lord Henry T. Howard Molyneux Howard.

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The Earl of Chichester.

Marquess Cornwallis. Marquess of Salisbury, K.G.

His Majesty's Ministers, viz.,

Right Hon. C. Bathurst, Right Hon. W. Wellesley Pole.
Right Hon. Geo. Canning, Right Hon. N. Vansittart.
Lord Viscount Sidmouth, Lord Viscount Melville.
Lord Vis. Castlereagh, K.G. Earl of Mulgrave.
Earl of Liverpool, K.G. Earl Bathurst, K.G.
Earl of Westmorland, K.G. Earl of Harrowby.

Lord Privy Seal, Lord President of the Council,

The Right Honourable Lord Eldon.

Lord High Chancellor.

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Choir of Windsor.

Canons of Windsor.

Dean of Windsor.

Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard,

The Earl of Macclesfield.

The Groom of the Stole. The Marquess of Winchester.

The Lord Steward of His Majesty's Household. The Marquess of Cholmondeley.

The King's Masters of the Horse. The Duke of Montrose, K. B.

Ralph Bigland, Esq. Norroy, acting for Clarencieux King of Arms.

Supporter, H. Y. Wortham, Esq., one of his Majesty's Gentlemen Ushers.

The Coronet of her late Royal Highness born upon a black velvet cushion, by Col. Addenbrook, Equerry to her late Royal Highness.

Supporter, R. Chester, Esq., Gentleman Usher of the Privy Chamber.

Supporter, W. Woods, Esq.

Garter Principal King of Arms, Sir Isaac Heard, Knt. bearing his sceptre.

Supporter, J. Pulman, Esq.

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Secretary to the Lord Chamberlain, J. Calvert, Esq.

The Lord Chamberlain of his Majesty's Household, The M. of Hertford, K.G.

The Vice Chamberlain, Vis. Jocelyn.

Supporter of the pall, the Right Hon. Lady Ellenborough.

Supporter of the pall, the Right Hon. Lady Arden.

Supporter of the pall, the Right Hon. Lady Grenville.

Supporter of the pall, the Right Hon. Lady Boston.

Covered with a black velvet pall, adorned with eight escutcheons of her late Royal Highness's arms, the coffin carried by eight Yeomen of the Guard, under a canopy of black velvet, borne by eight Gentlemen Ushers.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, in a long black cloak, his train borne by Rear Admiral the Hon. Sir Henry Blackwood, Bart. and the Honour. Courtenay Boyle.

THE CHIEF MOURNER, His Serene Highness the Prince Leopold, in a long black cloak, his train borne by Baron de Hardenbroke and Lieut.-col. Sir Robert Gardiner, K.C.B., Aides-de-camp and Equerries to His Serene Highness.

His Royal Highness the Duke of York, in a long black cloak, his train borne by Lieut.-Col. Armstrong and Lieut.-Col. Cooke, Aides-de-camp to his Royal Highness.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, in a long black cloak, his train borne by Major-General Sir George Townshend Walker, G.C.B. Groom of the Bedchamber, and Major Perkins Magra, Equerry to his Royal Highness.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, in a long black cloak, his train borne by General Vyse Comptroller of the Household, and Lieut.-General Henry Wynyard, Groom of the Bedchamber of his Royal Highness.

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His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, in a long black cloak, his train borne by Colonel Dalton, and Lieutenant-Col. Cotton, Grooms of the Bedchamber of his Royal Highness.

Lady Gardiner.

Lady John Thynne, one of the Ladies of the Bedchamber of her late Royal Highness,

Women of the Bedchamber of her late Royal Highness.

Miss Charlotte Coates. Mrs. Campbell.

His Majesty's Establishment at Windsor, viz.,

Groom of the Stole,

The Earl of Winchilsea, K.G.

Master of the Robes, The Right Hon. Lord Vernon.

Vice-Chamberlain, Lord John Thynne.

Lords of the Bedchamber,

The Rt. Hon. Lord Rivers, The Rt. Hon. Lord Somerville,
The Rt. Hon. Lord Arden, The Rt. Hon. Lord St. Helen's.

Grooms of the Bedchamber,

Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir A. K. Legge, K.C.B., Lieut.-Gen. Sir Henry F. Campbell, K.C.B.

The Hon. Robert Fulk Greville, Vice-Admiral Sir Harry Neale, Bart. K.C.B.

Clerk Marshal and First Equerry,

General Robert Manners.

Equerries,

General George Garth, General Francis Edward Gwynne.
Lt.-Gen. Sir B. Spencer, G.C.B. Lt.-Gen. W. Cartwright,
Lieut.-Gen. William Wynward.

Master of the Household,

Benjamin Charles Stephenson, Esq.

Her Majesty's Establishment at Windsor, viz.,

Master of the Horse,

Earl Harcourt.

Treasurer of the Household, Major-General Herbert Taylor,

Vice-Chamberlain, Edw. Disbrowe, Esq.

Equerries,

Maj.-Gen. Hon. Sir E. Stopford, K.C.B. Col. Hon. A. P. Upton.

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Ladies of Her Majesty's Bedchamber,
The Countess of Ilchester. The Countess of Macclesfield,
Viscountess Melville.

Women of Her Majesty's Bedchamber,
The Hon. Mrs. A. M. Egerton. The Rt.-Hon. Lady Radstock,
The Hon. Mrs. Courtenay Boyle.

Gentlemen Ushers,
G. N. Vincent, Esq. Chas. Rooke, Esq. Thos. Gore, Esq.

Ladies of the Bedchamber of their Royal Highnesses the Princesses,
Lady M. Poulett, Lady M. Taylor, Lady Eliz. Montagu.

Women of the Bedchamber of their Royal Highnesses the Princesses,
Miss Disbrowe, Lady Campbell, Miss Vyse.

Attendants on Her late Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte,
Mrs. Cronberg, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Phillips.

Attendants on Her Majesty and the Princesses.

Upon entering the choir, the body was placed on a platform, and the coronet and cushion laid upon the coffin. The Chief Mourner sat on a chair placed for his Serene Highness at the head of the corpse, and their Royal Highnesses his supporters, on chairs on either side; the supporters of the pall sat in their places near the body, and the Lord Chamberlain of His Majesty's Household on a chair at the feet of the corpse. The Royal Dukes, and the Nobility, Knights of the Garter, occupied their respective stalls; and the Ministers of State, Officers of the Household, and others of the procession, were conducted to their respective places.

The part of the service before the interment,

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and the anthem, being performed, the body was deposited in the royal vault. The office of burial being concluded, after a short pause, Sir Isaac Heard, Knt. Garter Principal King of Arms, proclaimed the style of her late Royal Highness as follows:—

THUS it hath pleased Almighty God to take out of this transitory life unto his Divine Mercy, the late most illustrious Princess CHARLOTTE AUGUSTA, daughter of His Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, Regent of this United Kingdom; consort of His Serene Highness Leopold George Frederick, Duke of Saxe, Margrave of Misnia, Landgrave of Thuringia, Prince of Coburg of Saalfeld; and grand-daughter of His Most Excellent Majesty George the Third, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, whom God bless and preserve with long life, health, and honour, and all worldly happiness.

After which, his Serene Highness the Chief Mourner, the Princes of the Blood Royal, the great Officers, Nobility, and others who had composed the procession, retired; having witnessed that every part of this most mournful and afflicting ceremony had been conducted with great regularity, decorum, and solemnity.

The following additional particulars were transmitted from Windsor by an eye-witness:—

Upwards of 400 of the Foot Guards lined the paths leading to the porch of the Chapel, in single files, and every fourth man held a flambeau. There were 330 used on this occasion. General

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Bolton had the command of the infantry. At nine o'clock precisely the gates were thrown open, and the procession moved on in the following order:—

A guard of honour, consisting of fifty men of the Horse-Guards, took their stations in the open causeway, opposite the portico; nine of the trumpeters followed in state liveries. The pages of the royal household, and the establishments of their Majesties, the Prince Regent, and Prince Leopold, walked to the chapel-door, most of them holding a flambeau. The hearse was drawn by eight of the King's black horses, escorted by a detachment of the Tenth Royal Hussars. The next carriage, with six horses, was the Princess Augusta's, containing Prince Leopold, the Dukes of York and Clarence, as mourners. The second was the private carriage of his Serene Highness, closed up. The third, fourth, and fifth, were the carriages of the Prince Regent; the sixth and seventh were those of the Duke of York; the eighth was that of the Duke of Sussex; the ninth was the Duke of Cumberland's; and the tenth, the Duke of Gloucester's. Each of them were drawn by six horses; the coachmen in full state liveries, with hatbands. Another detachment of fifty of the Horse-Guards closed the procession. With the exception of the first carriage, with his Serene Highness Prince Leopold, and the Dukes of York and Clarence, the rest moved in the procession with the window-

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blinds closed. The corpse being conveyed into the Chapel, a line was formed three deep by the military, and the procession moved along the west chancel, up the centre aisle, into the choir. Upon their entrance, the body was placed on a platform in the centre of the choir, near the entrance to the vault. His Serene Highness Prince Leopold as Chief Mourner, sat in a chair at the head of the corpse, and their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York, Clarence, Sussex, Cumberland, and Gloucester, his supporters, in chairs on each side. The Knights of the Garter, wearing their ribands and stars, were seated in their respective stalls. The Ministers of State, Officers of the Household, and all connected with the procession, were accommodated in the body of the choir, to which part no other persons were admitted.

The solemnity of the scene was opened from Dr. Croft and Purcell's Burial Service, jointly, by Mr. Sexton, at the organ; after which, the 39th and 90th Psalms were chanted in a solemn manner, and with powerful effect. The Hon. and Rev. H. L. Hobart, Dean of Windsor, read the funeral service, in a most impressive manner, in the Sovereign's stall. After the first lesson, the favourite Anthem, composed by Dr. Blake, from the 16th Psalm, "I have set God always before me; for he is on my right hand, therefore I shall not fall," was introduced with very impressive effect, and sung by the gentlemen and boys of the choir. At the close of this anthem, the reverend

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Dean left his stall, and proceeded to the vault, during which the second part of the Burial Service was performed by the choir. The remaining part of the Prayers were then read by the Dean; at the close of which, the deputy Garter King of Arms proclaimed the style and title of her Royal Highness in the usual manner and form. The deputy Garter was so affected in performing this last sad duty, that his voice faltered, and it was impossible to hear this part of the ceremony. At this momentous period, the attention of the whole of the auditors in the choir and chancel-loft was directed towards Prince Leopold. His Serene Highness became extremely agitated with the ceremony, and immediately left the choir. The congregation departed, whilst the organ played the Dead March in Saul, by Handel.

From the shortness of time for completing the preparations, the west chancel and the aisles of St. George's Chapel, were not hung with black, and it was only confined to the choir, which was covered with black cloth.

As it is contrary to etiquette for peers of the realm to follow the corpse of a member of the Royal Family, the next in succession to the crown, it was arranged, that all the applications of the nobility to form a part of the funeral ceremony should be declined; and, for this reason, the carriages of the Cabinet Ministers, Ambassadors, and the Officers of the Household, proceeded to the north entrance of the chapel.

This procession was conducted with the utmost

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solemnity; and when it arrived in the choir, there was the deepest interest, which was signified by a solemn and mournful silence. The choristers, as soon as they made their appearance in the chapel, began to chant the solemn service of "I know that my Redeemer liveth:" the canopy followed the choristers, and moved at a very slow pace: it appeared to be of immense length, and being borne high in the air, had a most imposing effect: under this was the coffin, carried by eight of the yeomen of the guard, and the magnificent pall was supported by four baronesses.

Prince Leopold followed the coffin as chief mourner; his appearance created the deepest interest; his countenance was dejected; his manner was full of despondency; and though he made evident efforts to preserve calmness and fortitude, yet he, every now and then, burst into a flood of tears. He walked along with unsteady steps, and took the seat provided for him at the head of the coffin, between the Dukes of York and Clarence. During the whole time of the funeral service he preserved one fixed, but downcast, look towards the coffin of his beloved wife: he never once raised his eyes to the congregation: he was totally absorbed in his grief. The royal dukes who sat or stood beside him, watched him with much solicitude, as if they were afraid he would sink under his affliction. His distress, however, was tolerably subdued till the moment when the coffin was gradually lowered into the grave; at this awful crisis, when his deeply-regretted con-

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sort was to be separated from him for ever, he was alarmingly moved, but by a strong effort he seemed also to conquer this emotion.

The rest of the service passed on without requiring any particular notice. The usual anthems were chanted with proper solemnity; but the reading part of the ceremony did not attract any particular observation. The Dean went through his portion of it with dignity and pathos. When it was over, Sir Isaac Heard read the titles of the Princess in a voice much more broken by grief than age; and the mourners walked back, though without the state accompaniments.

The Royal Dukes, though truly they were not so deeply interested in the melancholy circumstances as the disconsolate widower, exhibited the most poignant regret.

The melancholy business was over before eleven o'clock, but the chapel and the avenues were not completely cleared till twelve o'clock. At that hour the whole town of Windsor was full of bustle and confusion. The carriage-ways were all blocked up with vehicles of every description, and the footpaths were impassable for the multitude of spectators. In a minor, but at the same time, in a very great degree, this confusion prevailed all the way to London: the road was covered with postchaises, and a change of horses was no where to be obtained.

Prince Leopold returned to Claremont almost immediately after the mournful ceremonial. He

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had made in the morning a short call at the Queen's Lodge, and walked for a short space in the Little Park with the Duke of Clarence. The Queen and Princesses kept themselves closely confined to their chambers.

The following interesting letter was received from Windsor, communicating to us some further particulars of the memorable transactions of the 19th, which we with pleasure present to our readers:

Thursday Morning, Nov. 20.

The grave has closed over that interesting Princess, so lately the hope of England, from whom we expected a race of sovereigns to spring, destined to perpetuate, since nor wisdom nor valour can exalt, the glory of old England. The calamity is not one that will soon pass away. The more we reflect upon it, the more it is aggravated in all its circumstances; and memory, industrious to wound, fails not to recal the recent incidents of her life, to compare the delight then known with the feelings growing out of the catastrophe we deplore, to heighten the universal affliction caused by her death.

Among the weeping spectators of her obsequies, many were found, who, at the beginning of the summer of last year, were assembled on a very different occasion, to witness the celebration of her nuptials. The most perfect knowledge

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of the vicissitudes of life could have but ill prepared those who then beheld her a young and blooming bride, to find such complicated sorrow as now oppresses the heart of the nation, the immediate offspring of that scene of joy; and the grief manifested by all classes who beheld the mournful pageant, was as loud, yet as profound, as the shock was sudden and severe.

In Windsor, the sad event created the strongest imaginable sensations of sorrow. Throughout the whole of the week the most affecting anxiety prevailed, to be made acquainted with, and, if possible, to witness, every thing in the slightest degree connected with the last sacred duties that remained to be performed in honour of one so sincerely beloved. The entrance of the remains of the departed Princess Charlotte into Windsor, on the night before the funeral, was one of the most touching scenes ever beheld in any age or nation. An idea had gone abroad, that the removal would take place on the evening preceding that actually fixed upon for conveying the bodies from the late residence of her Royal Highness to the destined place of interment. In consequence of this rumour, a great number of persons went out to meet them on the road, many of whom passed beyond Old Windsor, and consumed in melancholy unavailing watchfulness the greater part of the night.

On Tuesday evening, so early as eight o'clock, many hundreds of persons were seen on the road.

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leading from Windsor towards Egham, which route the procession was expected to take. These, in the course of the following two hours, were joined by an immense multitude, and, from ten o'clock till long after midnight, a greater assemblage of the inhabitants of Windsor was seen extending from the town to the gardens of Frogmore, than has been called together at any time, or under any circumstances since a very different object of attraction was presented in the splendid fête of 1809, given by her Majesty in honour of the jubilee, then celebrated on the commencement of the fiftieth year of the present reign.

But it was not only the people of Windsor who were called from their homes on this occasion. Numerous visitors from London swelled the ranks of the multitude, as on Tuesday the influx was so very great, that wherever the stranger sought a temporary home, he heard nothing but expressions of regret that the means of accommodation were exhausted.

At seven in the evening a detachment of the Blues were ordered from Windsor to meet the procession. At ten o'clock several mourning coaches arrived; and these coming by Frogmore, pretty clearly indicated the route of the whole procession, but the crowd still doubting, continued walking backwards and forwards, never losing sight for more than a few minutes of the long row.

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It was not till half an hour after midnight that the solemn cavalcade was seen entering Windsor. Fifty of the Blues cleared the way, and the procession followed in the order decided upon. The demonstrations of sorrow were as universal as they were strong, when they saw by the light of the moon the hearse which conveyed to the tomb the lifeless form of that endeared Princess, whom many of them had so often seen on that very spot, in all the gaiety of youth, distinguished less by her high rank than by the condescending affability with which she acknowledged the spontaneous tokens of respect and love which her presence never failed to command. The coach and six bearing the urn which contained the heart of the Princess, with the coffin of the child, drawn by six horses, preceded the hearse, which was drawn by eight. Prince Leopold, who had announced his determination to remain with the corpse all night, followed in a coach and six, and other mourning coaches followed, precisely according to the arrangement previously made. Mutes, attendants in mourning, and a small party of the Blues, closed the melancholy train.

The procession had passed through Hensham, Walton, Shepperton, Laleham, Staines, and Egham. At Staines it halted, and the detachment from the Tenth Hussars, which had escorted it thus far, was relieved by the Oxford Blues, and the cavalcade advanced in the same order in which it had set out, by Priesthill, Old Windsor,

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and Frogmore, to Windsor. In St. Alban's-street the procession again stopped, and a detachment of twenty of the Horse-Guards escorted the body of the infant up Castle-Hill to the porch of St. George's Chapel. Colonel Addenbrook, Sir Robert Gardiner, Mr. Stephenson, and Mr. Mash, were in the carriage, and the coffin and the urn were conveyed to the altar, and both were deposited in the vault. None but the necessary attendants were admitted into the chapel at this time. No funeral service was read. This part of the proceedings finished at about half-past one.

The body of the Princess had in the mean time been conveyed to the room prepared for it at the Lower Lodge. Here his Serene Highness alighted, attended by Sir George Nayler and the officers of the Lord Chamberlain. The pale and despairing expression of his countenance told but too distinctly the desolation of spirit which the loss of his beloved consort had caused him to experience; and the contrast between his present appearance and that which he wore but a few weeks ago struck every observant eye, and woke the warmest sympathy for that unspeakable anguish of which he was seen the interesting victim.

On the morning of the 19th the whole of the shops in Windsor were closed, as were the windows of nearly all the private houses. The day was in every respect observed as a Sunday. It was in truth the sabbath of sorrow.

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The Princess lay in state from the time of the arrival of the body at the Lower Lodge, till late in the afternoon of the 19th. To the apartment in which the coffin was placed no person could be admitted without a ticket; and though it was intended that most of the respectable inhabitants of Windsor should have an opportunity of witnessing this last sad display of royal grandeur, the numerous applications preferred, made it impossible to comply with the solicitations of many who were desirous of gazing on this interesting spectacle. During the whole of the night Prince Leopold sat up with the remains of his beloved consort, and refused all refreshment but a little water, sweetened with sugar.

The room in which the body lay in state was not large; it was completely covered with black cloth, and the approach to it lay through another apartment, not less completely hung with sables. The coffin was covered with a splendid pall, superbly decorated with all the pomp of heraldry. At the head, the 'scutcheon of the deceased appeared, and three immense candlesticks with lighted candles of corresponding magnitude were placed on each side of the body; many smaller candles were kept burning throughout the day, which, with the larger lights, were elevated on platforms raised for the purpose. The crowd that pressed in to view this scene was great beyond conception; but the sincere respect universally cherished for the deceased, taught all

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who approached the departed Princess a proper regard for decorum, and no disorder worth mentioning occurred.

Windsor continued crowded to excess throughout the day, and every avenue which offered the remotest chance of a view of any part of the preparations for the solemnity of the evening was resorted to with indescribable eagerness. At dusk, it was thought necessary to clear the Castle-Yard, and none were afterwards admitted without pass-tickets. The first, second, and third regiments of Guards, took a principal part of the duty; and when they were marching into the Castle-Yard, such was the anxiety of the public to witness the rites which remained to be performed, that it was with the greatest difficulty they were restrained, even for a moment, and the ranks of the military were repeatedly broken by the efforts made to pass the outer gate. At the door of St. George's Chapel the crowd assembled was hardly less impatient. The door opened a few minutes before seven, and those who had tickets were admitted into the grand entrance of that superb edifice. Much disappointment was here experienced by those who were admitted. Once in the Chapel they had expected to be at liberty to choose those situations which might afford the best opportunity for witnessing the whole of the solemn rites about to be celebrated. They were, however, restrained to the north aisle; and a detachment of Guards, drawn up

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three deep, interposed between them and the space over which the procession was to pass.

In consequence of the lamented death of the Princess Charlotte, a most numerous congregation, all in full mourning, attended at St. Paul's Cathedral, which was crowded to an overflow, to hear Divine service. The folding-doors were closed when the body of the cathedral was filled, which was a great disappointment to those waiting at the outside, as they could not gain admittance. At the time appointed for the commencement of the service, those on the outside, in a numerous body, made a rush in, to the imminent danger of those in the inside; they injured the doors and windows, but happily no accident occurred. This caused great confusion and alarm throughout the cathedral, and the stalls appointed in general for the choristers were completely filled. The congregation waited a considerable time in suspense for the service to begin. At length one o'clock arrived; no service was likely to commence, and a report was current over the place that the service was to be suspended, which report spread a visible gloom on all the congregation, who were highly respectable, and who appeared to be deeply sensible of the great loss the nation has sustained. In consequence of the great tumult, and fearing some danger might accrue, the city officers were sent for, who, after some time, arrived; and they were

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directed to keep the place quiet, and, if possible, to clear the body of the cathedral. The report of the suspending the service being spread, it was thought prudent to send for the Lord Mayor, who was at the time in company with Sir Wm. Curtis at another church. He came immediately, and paid the strictest attention to the comforts of the congregation; but as he was going through the cathedral, he was grossly insulted by a young man, for simply bidding him take off his hat while in the house of God; he then left the cathedral. The cathedral was appropriately fitted up in black, the altar and pulpit being covered, and the coat of arms of the Prince of Saxe Coburg on the front of the latter. Here Mr. Atwood appeared in the gallery by the organ, and announced, that in consequence of the stalls being so very full, the service must inevitably be suspended, as they could not hear it with any pleasure. The Lord Mayor again appeared, who, we suppose, not hearing the former annquncement, expressed his gratification at witnessing so numerous a congregation, and that the service should commence as soon as possible. They waited in suspense till some time after the appointed time for the service to commence, but in vain. Here the officers attempted to clear the body of the cathedral, but to no purpose. The Lord Mayor then addressed the congregation, and said, that the clergyman had left the cathedral, and likewise the choir, and although he lamented it as much

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as any one present, the service must necessarily be suspended, as there was no clergyman present to celebrate it; and he hoped they would retire in a peaceable manner. Here a display of indignation, mingled with a degree of feeling, burst forth from the disappointed multitude, with a cry of "The service." A gentleman from one of the stalls said, "My Lord, if the service will commence when the stalls are cleared, let somebody unlock the door, and I am sure it will be complied with, if that was what prevented the service from commencing." The doors being open, they all left the stalls, but the service did not begin. and the officers proceeded to clear the body of the cathedral; some persons they turned out, but others were more obstinate, and kept their station. At the sight of the officers the congregation seemed enraged; some cried out for the Clergyman to apologize, others for the Lord Mayor, and others in the seats in the gallery, exclaimed, "Why have we paid our money?" A gentleman in the body of the cathedral rose, on the officers offering to turn out him and his company from their seats: he said he was surprised that it should be announced to such a numerous assemblage of persons, collected together to solemnize so melancholy an event, after waiting so long a time, that they could not hear Divine Service: it was degrading to the feelings of all present, he was sure. He did not see what right the Lord Mayor had to use his interference in the case. The Lord Mayor had told them

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it was with great pleasure he witnessed so numerous an assembly on the occasion, and the service would commence as soon as possible; and he did not see for what reason it should not begin, as many persons, perhaps, were prevented from attending other places, in order to attend there. They had come there—he hoped all present had—with an intention to pay due respect to the memory of the departed Princess—(Here the gentleman was quite overcome by his feelings:)—but, instead of their being indulged with what they expected, they were robbed of that respect which was due to their country, their prince, and their departed Princess.—(Applause).—He thought the Lord Mayor, instead of preventing the service taking place, ought to be the very person who should cause its commencement. In his opinion, every place of worship throughout the United Kingdom should unite in deploring the loss which they had at this time unfortunately sustained, even the humblest of them, and it would be noticed if they did not: what must it then be for the head of all churches to abstain from it, that of the metropolitan church? He would advise that the service should begin immediately, and said, for God's sake, do not send people home to their dinner, without satisfying that feeling of affection due on the occasion.

At this time Alderman Sir W. Curtis entered the Cathedral, and addressed the congregation. He had just left a place of worship where the

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Lord Mayor had been sent for. He inquired what caused the confusion; on being told, he made a long speech to them, and in tears exhorted them to act like Christian people, and leave the place as the Clergy had done, in a quiet and peaceable manner. (Here many cries were heard against the Lord Mayor, and for the Service.) He said, neither him nor the Lord Mayor had any power there; it all lay with the heads of the church, &c., and implored them to act like people that loved their God, and retire peaceably.

Another gentleman rose and said, he hoped their feelings would not be aggravated to that degree, to send them home after waiting so long; he thought it wrong in the Clergyman to leave in the manner he did.

Sir W. Curtis assured them the Lord Mayor had done every thing a good man ought to do; and he hoped they would leave the church.

The latter gentleman said, he had been misguided; he was now convinced he had accused the Lord Mayor without just grounds; and was conscious his Lordship had done every thing that was right.

The former gentleman rose, and requested the Lord Mayor, as the regular Clergyman was not there, to be so obliging as to send his own Chaplain, to satisfy the congregation; for which purpose they left; and, not finding him or the Clergyman, they returned and informed them, that if they would have patience till three o'clock, Service

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would commence without fail, and they left the Cathedral.

The service commenced accordingly at three o'clock, till which time all kept their places. A new anthem, composed for the occasion by Mr. T. Attwood, organist, immediately preceded the service; the words were taken from the 90th Psalm, 13th verse, "Turn thee again, O Lord, at the last, and be gracious unto thy servant." The Psalms from the Service for the Burial of the Dead were used instead of those appointed for the day. The "*Te Deum*," and "*Jubilate*," composed by Richard Patrick, were sung by the choir. The Litany, composed by Tallis, was chanted by the choir, accompanied by the organ. In the course of the Service, the following selection from Handel's anthem, composed for the funeral of Queen Caroline was performed:—

QUARTETTO.

When the ear heard her, then it blessed her,
And when the eye saw her, it gave witness of her.

CHORUS.

She delivered the poor that cried, the fatherless, and him that had none to help him.
Kindness, meekness, and comfort were in her tongue.
If there was any virtue, and if there was any praise,
She thought on those things.

QUARTETTO.

Her body is buried in peace.

CHORUS.

But her name liveth evermore. Amen.

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The 19th was a day of prayer and lamentation, not only throughout this vast metropolis, but throughout the whole realm: may it also have proved one of heavenly mercies. On earth it has been kept with the most becoming solemnity. Never, in ancient ages, when the virgins of Israel wept in sackcloth and ashes, and the beauty of Jerusalem was in the dust, have the fasts and humiliations of the chosen people been observed with more heartfelt sorrow and unaffected devotion. Though this great metropolis did not rend her clothes, and send the roar of her lamentations through all her gates, she was desolate in spirit, and breathed forth her afflictions in silence and in tears. The spectacle was awful, and at the same time consolatory; for it was gratifying, even in woe, to behold the religious feeling with which a great and reflecting nation acknowledged the chastising providence of the Almighty, and bowing in humble resignation to his behests, implored a relaxation of his wrath. If this empire has prospered amidst the calamities of the world; if it has risen unbroken, nay, triumphant, from every conflict; if it has had no bounds set to its glory and its power—it mainly owes these dear, these exclusive blessings, to the deep sense of faith and gratitude which it has generally preserved towards the Giver of life and all victory. This was the shield that covered it in the day of battle, the spear that overthrew the multitude of its foes. When this sense seemed blunted by long pros-

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perity, and confidence and pride succeeded humility and religion, a warning blow was struck, but still more in mercy than in anger. Had vengeance alone been consulted, the wound would have been inflicted by a mortal hand. Our enemies might have been allowed to prevail against us; and disgrace would have been added to calamity. But in our present affliction, the Almighty himself was our adversary, more to reclaim than to punish; and thanks to His mercy, we trust his benevolent intentions have been fulfilled, and that this nation has returned to its former fidelity, and to its former love. Whoever beheld the crowds which filled our churches on that day; the deep attention with which they hung on the divine word; the devout fervency of their prayers, and the tears with which they embalmed the memory of our beloved Princess, must have been convinced, that sincere and ardent religion had resumed its empire over their hearts. By an impulse of feeling, as spontaneous as it was universal, all business was suspended throughout this vast metropolis. Every shop was shut as during the solemnity of the Sabbath; the shutters of most private houses were also closed, and while the deep tolling of bells sounded mournfully above, and afflicted countenances and the black vestments of woe passed silently along, funeral processions seemed to move in every street, and the whole land to weep in desolation.

At an early hour the bells throughout the entire

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extent of this great metropolis tolled the funeral knell, which was resumed at intervals during the day, and continued until twelve o'clock at night. Among them the deep and sonorous tone of St. Paul's struck upon the ear with a force and effect greatly exceeding all its melancholy associates. The standard on the Tower was hoisted at day-break, half-staff high; and the example was followed by every vessel in the river that had an ensign or a union jack to display. In the different sea-ports minute guns were to be fired at night; and every ship of every nation was to hoist their colours half-mast high. In all the parishes the parochial children were partly dressed in mourning, black collars and cuffs, instead of red or blue or green, and black bindings round their caps and badge; the females with black ribbons on their gowns and caps. The scene around us was one of universal mourning. All the upper classes were in full suits of black, and the persons even in humblest life were not without some mark or emblem of sorrow. Divine Service was performed in all the churches and chapels of every religious sect and persuasion. Eleven o'clock was in general the hour of its commencement. Westminster Abbey was crowded to excess, as were likewise all the other churches and chapels, which displayed the like sombre appearance, the same religious and pious sentiments, mixed with melancholy regret; and this great metropolis, embracing a population of one million two

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hundred thousand souls, was seen in the self-same hour, in one great body, humbling itself before God in solemn prayer and devotion. What a noble, what a touching spectacle! So many thousand human beings, engaged at the same instant, in spontaneous devotion, to breathe out their sorrows before God, and offer up the pious incense of their love, for the treasure of which his mysterious will has bereaved them. This was no state ceremony; no cold compliance of public decency; no mere outward shew, where the heart is unconcerned. Inferior only to the vehemence of private grief (and it would be affectation to identify them) the British family mourn their loss in a spirit of much affliction, which proves its sincerity, because it is *not* violent. They have seen a royal branch destroyed, from which, in the very moment of its blight, they were prophesying auspicious fruit. This, as a national calamity, they have cause to deplore. But it is not this alone that prompts their sighs. They weep over the grave, where youth, and virtue, and beauty, lie entombed. Their sympathies have been touched deeper than their fears. We question whether the annals of any country can produce the record of a scene so morally sublime, as England on this day offered to the world. Uncalled by any spiritual ordinance, unbidden by any mandate of temporal authority, but prompted only by their own unfeigned sorrow, and their profound reliance upon the consolations of reli-

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gion, they voluntarily desisted from public affairs, and with humble, awful earnestness, filled our sacred temples, to supplicate the throne of mercy. A whole people thus prostrate before God, that they may tell the anguish of their hearts, implore forgiveness for the past, and mercy for the future, has in it something so holy, so majestical, so edifying, that we would blush for ourselves, if we hesitated to acknowledge the emotions of piety with which we are inspired. If the expression of such feelings, in individuals, is accounted virtue, and the assured means of divine grace, we may be permitted to indulge the pious hope, that as an act of national devotion, it will procure us that favour, without which all human wisdom is as nothing *.

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* Towards the close of Louis XIV.'s reign in France, a calamity of a similar nature occurred, when the Dauphin himself was buried in the same coffin with his wife and child. The devastation was, in truth, wider than on the present occasion, but not so fatal to the direct line, as other children of the same marriage remained to reap the succession. The preacher to the court, the celebrated La Rue, chose a text on the occasion, which was much admired for its descriptive appropriateness, and was followed by a touching and eloquent discourse. It was as follows:—

> "Wherefore commit ye this great evil against your own souls, to cut off from you man, and woman, and child, out of Judah, to leave none behind?"—Jer. xliv. 7.

The orator thus commences his discourse:—"*He that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of the house of David, he*

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The inhabitants of the town of Kingston, who were the first to set the example of shutting their

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that openeth and no man shutteth, and shutteth and no man openeth, (Rev. iii. 7.), hath now exercised before our eyes that absolute power which none can resist; and the terrifying menaces which he uttered by the mouths of his prophets to his criminal people, are this day changed into real events. What events! What a sight! His arm falls heavy upon the princes as well as upon their subjects. A house like the house of David, raised by the hands of wisdom, supported by so many columns which seemed to render it unassailable to the assaults of fortune and the injuries of time. Into this house, God, who for so many years has held it open to victory, to splendour, and to joy, and shut it against grief and sorrow, now extends solitude, and introduces death. Hast thou, then, O God, granted to the reign of a sovereign, who has almost seen us all born, and whom we revere as a common father, this unprecedented extent, only to display in it unparalleled causes of sorrow? Hast thou placed in our view so fair a line of descendants, appearing destined to support it, only to snatch away in twenty days that which might have formed the support of his throne for an age? By what excess of crimes have we been able to merit the pouring forth of the vessels of Divine wrath, that man and woman and child should be cut off from among us, and leave none remaining?"

We may, however, apply the manner in which the death of the French Princes is described, to the decease of our own:—"While all things were in quiet silence, and that night was in the midst of her swift course; thine Almighty word leaped down from Heaven, out of thy royal throne, as a fierce man of war, into the midst of a land, and brought thine unfeigned commandment as a sharp sword, and standing up, filled all things with death." (Wisdom of Solomon, xviii. 14—16.) "And upon whom did this death-dealing word alight?" says the preacher. "Not as heretofore, O Lord, upon the first-born of Egypt, the enemies of thy name, but upon the first-born of thy

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shops and houses upon the melancholy event of the death of the Princess, were foremost in all other respects. The pulpit, reading and clerk's desk, and corporation pew, were covered with black cloth, and remained so for a considerable time. Their public notice for the prevention of the exhibition of shows, or any thing else that would create a noise, at their chartered fair, which commenced on the 13th, continued with the same order and regularity, the charter being for holding the fair for nine days. On the 19th the mayor, bailiffs, town-clerk, and other officers of the corporation, went to church in procession, but without their robes; the mace was not carried, nor any of the corporation regalia. It being known that the Reverend William Gandy, the vicar, would preach a funeral sermon upon the death of the Princess, the church was much crowded. The reverend gentleman took his text from the 40th chapter of Isaiah, verses 6, 7, and 8. On his conclusion, he gave notice, that he should preach another sermon on the day of the funeral, when a collection would be made

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church, the mother and her child." The husband, indeed, in the present instance, is spared, but spared to feel the keenest affliction; as according to the Levitical law, when two birds were offered in sacrifice for impurity, one was slain, and the other was permitted to escape, though sullied with the death of its mate (Lev. xiv. 5.) May those who have already fallen be deemed a sufficient infliction for the sins of the land.

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for an Institution, of which the Princess was patroness. During the residence of the Princess and Prince at Claremont, the corporation of Kingston paid them every possible attention. The bailiffs presented the Prince with a permission to shoot on the manor of Kingston soon after his Serene Highness came there. The last time the beloved Princess passed through the town, was on the 12th of August, when she went to pay her dutiful regards to her Royal Father, the Prince Regent, on the celebration of his birth-day, at the Countess of Cardigan's, at Richmond, when she complained of experiencing considerable inconvenience from the holes and bad state of one of the streets, which being made known to the corporation, it has since been new paved. The corporation of Kingston was the first public body who presented an address of condolence to Prince Leopold, through the medium of Baron de Hardenbroke. The following is a copy:—

"My Lord,

The Corporation of Kingston, deeply impressed with feelings of sorrow and regret at the great loss sustained by this country in the recent calamities at Claremont, and fully sensible of the trying and most painful situation in which his Serene Highness the Prince of Saxe Coburg is now placed, most respectfully beg leave to inquire after the state of his Serene Highness's health, to sympathize in his misfortune, and to unite their hopes and wishes, with those of the country at large, that his Serene Highness will be enabled to yield with fortitude and resignation

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to the awful visitation of Providence, and that his Serene Highness may yet live to enjoy many years of health and happiness in the merited esteem and respect of a nation, endeared to him by the strongest ties of affection.

I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's humble servant,

Nov. 9, 1817. CHAS. JEMMITT, Town Clerk.

To the Hon. Baron de Hardenbroke."

The following is the answer to the address :—

"SIR, *Claremont, Nov.* 11, 1817.

I have submitted to the Prince Leopold your letter of the 9th instant.

I am commanded by the Prince to request you will express to the Corporation of Kingston his Serene Highness's warmest thanks for the feeling they have shewn in his calamities.

The Prince Leopold, suffering under a grief that admits of no alleviation, is still sensible to those assurances of true affection so feelingly manifested by the Corporation of Kingston. He remembers, and at the same time is anxious to record, how much the Princess has been gratified by frequent and unquestionable proofs of their attachment to her Royal Highness, and he can say how highly and earnestly her Royal Highness valued it.

The Prince Leopold, in commanding me to express his gratification, in this instance, of real participation and interest in his grief, feels that he fulfils also what would have been the Princess's desire, in affording the Corporation of Kingston his assurance how constantly her Royal Highness regarded and desired their welfare and happiness.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

BARON HARDENBROKE.

To Charles Jemmett, Esq., Town Clerk,
Kingston."

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As the intelligence of the death of our beloved Princess spread throughout France, it continued every where to excite the liveliest sympathy in our affliction. All the English vessels in the different French ports lowered their colours; and wherever an Englishman was to be seen, his sable garments and downcast looks manifested his full participation in the grief which shrouded his native home. Letters from the Grand Head-quarters at Cambray mentioned, that on the news arriving there, it spread universal grief and dismay in the English army. The generals, the officers of all ranks, and the private soldiers, were seen to shed tears of affliction when they were informed of the sad event. What funeral oration could be more affecting?—The opera in Paris was deserted by every Englishman, and all our countrymen there put themselves into mourning —a becoming conduct which could not fail to impress foreigners with an exalted notion of the moral character of Britons. One of the Paris papers, recurring to the melancholy topic, paid the following just tribute to the feelings which the people of England manifested on this occasion:—

"England offers to us, at this moment, the spectacle of a nation deeply impressed with the salutary doctrines of legitimate succession. The general sorrow which the death of the Princess Charlotte has excited, is an example worthy the

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contemplation of those turbulent and unquiet spirits, who affirm that persons should be reckoned as nothing, and that it is only to things we ought to attach ourselves. Yes; it may be so, according to a rash and arrogant philosophy; but the friends of humanity, the friends of their country, reason differently; and, independently of the lofty character which princes have in their eyes, they view them as the protectors of nations, and the surest guarantees of their institutions. The English journals are filled with the most touching lamentations, inspired by their sorrow for the loss which the country has sustained. She was 'the expectancy and rose of the fair state,' they exclaim; thus uniting, in a single phrase, patriotic affections with those which are produced by the fate of youth and beauty, so unexpected. Happy are the people who thus appreciate the virtues of their princes! Faction will strive in vain to produce agitation among them; and, in the sort of union which now subsists between governments, this circumstance is not indifferent to the repose of the world."

The French journals, in the language they held on this mournful occasion, did homage to the sensibility by which our countrymen are characterized as a humane and gallant race. They wept with us over the urn of youth and beauty—they felt for our unfeigned and universal grief—that grief which vibrated through seventeen millions of human beings, as if their

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blood had circulated from a single heart, and their tears were shed from the same fountain. But, perhaps, these generous foreigners were not familiar with the deepest source of our concern. They saw in the people of England at this moment, " the spectacle of a nation deeply impressed with the salutary doctrines of legitimate succession." They would see, if they understood the English character, something more than mere solicitude for the interests of legitimate succession. Of legitimacy, taken in the opposite sense to usurpation, we are amongst the warmest friends, because peace, and order, and civilized improvement, and social comfort, are generally found amongst it attributes. But in the present instance, greatly as we regret the failure of the regular descent, we cannot help thinking that the rupture of such a link will be regretted as much for the material of which it is formed, as for the place which it occupied. The loss of an heir apparent or presumptive, who had lived all his life-time in the north of Germany for instance, and whom we had never seen or known, might create, under certain circumstances, a strong sensation through this kingdom: but it would be a feeling of alarm or anxiety. It would engross our calculations but not our affections. It would bear no tinge of sorrow nor of tenderness; it would not pervade all ranks, nor level all distinctions of character and party. The shops would not be deserted, nor the churches crowded—the votaries of plea-

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sure would still forget the hand that chastened them, and pursue the mad game which they had spontaneously suspended. The poor would not spare, *as they actually do*, from their necessities, wherewithal to purchase the decent " suits of woe." All this is yet a mystery to foreign nations. They have their system of morals—we have ours—They know not the true cords that bind us to our sovereigns—that the principles of an Englishman are the preceptors of his heart; and that if we mourn our lost Princess as they see we mourn, it is as well for her virtues as her birth. Of what might be the natural influence of those virtues upon the minds of an affectionate and admiring people, there can be but one opinion. They were precisely the qualities which would most contribute to the improvement of society amongst us: and they were displayed in a point of view the most favourable to their beneficial operation. She was not only good, but happy. There was nothing in her fortune to diminish the force of her example. She was not merely a pattern of domestic worth and female excellence; but she held out to the wives and daughters of England the most powerful incitements, and tempting rewards, to the performance of every moral duty; for she proved to them, by the manifest and indissoluble connexion between the actions and enjoyments of every hour of her existence, that

" Virtue is happiness below."

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The following description of the Royal Sepulchre at Windsor, which contains the mortal remains of our much lamented Princess, will, no doubt, be perused with great interest:—

This extensive and admirably-constructed receptacle for our illustrious dead, was chiefly from the design, and, in no small degree, under the personal superintendence, of our beloved, venerable, and afflicted Sovereign himself. It is constructed in the *souterrain* of a freestone building, attached to the east end of St. George's Chapel, in Windsor Castle (somewhat in a similar way with the annexation of Henry the Seventh's Chapel to the east end of Westminster Abbey), long known by the familiar appellation of "Wolsey's Tomb-house." In point of fact, the building was originally commenced by the Prince above mentioned, who intended it as a burying-place for himself and his successors; but afterwards, altering his purpose, he built the more noble structure at Westminster; and this remained neglected until Cardinal Wolsey obtained a grant of it from Henry VIII., and, with a profusion of expense (for the vanity and ambition of this arch-favorite were unbounded), began therein a sumptuous monument for himself, whence the building obtained the name of "Wolsey's Tomb-house." This monument was so magnificently constructed, that it far exceeded that of Henry the Seventh, in his chapel at Westminster Abbey; and at the time of the Cardinal's disgrace, the tomb was so far executed, that Benedetto, a celebrated statuary of Florence, received 4,250 ducats for what he had

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already done, and 380*l.* 18*s.* was paid for *gilding* only half of this monument. The Cardinal, dying shortly after his disgrace, was buried in the cathedral at York, and the monument remained unfinished. In 1646, the statues and figures, of gilt copper, of exquisite workmanship, were sold. James II. converted this building into a Popish chapel, and mass was publicly performed here. The ceiling was painted by Verrio, and the walls were finely ornamented and painted. The whole, however, was much neglected since the reign of James II., and being no appendage of the collegiate church, long waited the royal favor to rescue it from a state of decay. This, however, has been amply extended, by the munificence and solid taste of our present gracious Sovereign; who, during the construction of the royal sepulchre, is said, pointing to one of the superior niches, to have observed, "Here *I* shall lie, and I believe I shall not be one of the worst of those who shall lie in this vault."

We believe the new royal vault now contains the remains of the following illustrious personages:—His Royal Highness the late Duke of Gloucester; a younger daughter of that Royal Duke; her Royal Highness the Princess Amelia; and Princess Charlotte.

If, indeed, there is any thing consolatory under the irreparable loss which we have sustained, beyond what we derive from a faithful and confident trust in a benevolent Deity, it is to be found in that

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general humiliation under his inflictions which we every where witness; and which, by evincing our sense of his power, and our submission to his will, may render us fit objects of his mercy. Some men may be so hardy in their nature, or so callous through vicious habit, as to be regardless of futurity, and indifferent to the fate of their country; but those who feel any interest in this their abiding place, and the welfare of its inhabitants, when they themselves may be no more, cannot but anxiously meditate on the immense *change* in its destiny, to give the disaster no worse a name, which a few short days have produced; and when they add to this also, the consideration that our imprudence may convert that change into the occasion of every political calamity that can afflict a nation, or our discretion rob it of its injurious powers, how can they do otherwise than look up with supplicating eyes to that Being, who "hath the hearts of all men in his hands, and turneth them whithersoever he will?" We are not fond of instancing the awful events which have taken place in another country. The House of Brunswick govern us for our good, and not for theirs, except so far as they make a part of the great family of which they are at the head; and when we consider that an hereditary monarchy, in which the nation acquiesces, may save us from Constituent Assemblies, and National Assemblies, and Committees of Public Safety, and Directories, and Consulships, and, above all, from one self-raised, self-

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dependent tyranny, which its own preservation obliges to crush all that opposes it, at home or abroad; we cannot but infer, that any occurrence, materially affecting the succession, is of all others the most serious and eventful. Only a short time ago, the descent of the crown presented no subject of doubt or anxiety: good men prayed habitually for the success of an arrangement prescriptively formed: but now, the future is buried in obscurity; and humble piety can only offer up its request to the almighty Disposer of events to extract good from apparent evil. The feelings of men also join in this general reasoning, and are greatly moved on the present occasion; for we have not only lost two sovereigns in succession, but in one of them also we have lost a Princess, who, by her virtues and talents already evinced, had afforded the strongest presumption that she would govern us kindly and affectionately, as well as constitutionally and legally. In her private life, too, she was so eminent in the discharge of all the domestic duties, that her example must have been most beneficial to the nation; so that we not only lament the Princess, but the woman: and while we comfort ourselves, as well we may, in the assurance that she is removed to a state of the purest happiness in Heaven, we cannot but sigh for that which has been interrupted by her death here on earth. The influence of a prudent and virtuous woman upon society is admirably illustrated by the son of Sirach: and the degree in which that influence was strengthened and

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diffused by the elevation in life of our late exemplary Princess, seems also to be comprised in the meaning of the proverbs, which we are therefore the more desirous of quoting:—"As the sun when it ariseth in the high heaven, so is the beauty of a good wife, in the ordering of her house."—"As the golden pillars are upon the sockets of silver, so are the fair feet with a constant heart."—"A wicked woman is given as a portion to a wicked man, but a godly woman is given to him that feareth the Lord."—(Eccl. xxvi. 16, 18, 23.)

That the happiness of a nation depends greatly upon the virtue of its sovereign, is clear to reason and common sense. We are no less positively assured through Holy Writ, that the Deity, in his government of this world, punishes nations for the wickedness of their princes, and chastises the princes for the unrestrained depravity of the nations which they govern. The justice of this administration is also easily defended; for it is obvious that the purity and virtue of the people, even under the most absolute form of government, would powerfully restrain the vicious dispositions of the prince; and, on the contrary, that the good example of the prince would mightily influence the people: the depravity or virtue of each, will, therefore, be reciprocal and reflected; and Divine vengeance or favor may select as its object which of the two it pleases, or whichsoever Divine wisdom may think calculated to produce the most powerful and salutary effect; for in this sense also,

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" whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it, or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it." In the present instance, then, the Princess has been snatched away by a most severe, untimely fate. Think ye that she was a sinner above others? On the contrary, universal testimony seems to prove her pre-eminent goodness and virtue. It is conclusive, therefore, that if it is not for her sins that she is snatched away, her death is to be interpreted as a judgment or a warning to those who are most materially affected by it—her future subjects; except, indeed, a man can persuade himself to believe this world to be so governed by infinite wisdom, that the most important event that can occur to the most powerful nation in it, has been permitted to take place for no one rational or assignable purpose whatever. That she died by natural causes is true; but that she died for some moral purpose or end, is no less so. The man who denies this, may content himself with some blind security as to his faith, that he is partly deist and partly Christian; believing he knows not exactly how much, and disbelieving he knows not why.

The following are the principal occurrences which took place at the metropolitan churches on this memorable day* :—

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* According to the original arrangement of this Work, it was intended to have embodied with these Memoirs, some brief abstracts of all the Sermons, preached on this melancholy occasion;

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Westminster Abbey.—The pulpit, &c. was covered with black cloth, and an overflowing congregation, to whom Divine Service was performed by the very Reverend the Dean of Westminster.

St. Margaret's was numerously and respectably attended, and a most excellent discourse delivered on the melancholy occasion, by the Rev. Mr. Grove, Curate. The church was hung with black.

St. John's, Westminster, was very much crowded, and a most excellent sermon was preached.

St. James's Church.—The assembled multitude entirely filled the church-yard from the overflow. Long before the service commenced every nook was filled. Persons who had pews within could not gain access to them. The Rev. Mr. Repton delivered a most affecting and eloquent discourse from Matthew, chapter 9, verse 24.—"He said unto them, give place, for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth." There was not a dry eye.

St. George's, Hanover-square.—Dr. Macauley preached, The text was taken from the 20th chapter of Samuel, and part of the 3d verse. "There is but a step between me and death." The Psalms selected were the 16th, 39th, and 143d. The Psalms for the organ, four verses of the 90th, beginning at the 3d verse; and the Voluntary, the Dead March in Saul.

The Royal Military Chapel, Whitehall.—There was a com-

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but finding that justice could not be done to their respective merits, within the limits prescribed, and considering that many of those Sermons contain, not only the most suitable admonitions, but are, in many respects, illustrative of the character of our lamented Princess, it was resolved to print a Supplementary Part, containing the most copious and appropriate extracts from those Sermons, and which will be published on the same day with the last part of the Volume. As this Supplementary Part will form a distinct Work, it may either be bound up with the Memoirs, or purchased as a separate book, according to the option of the individual.

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pany of the Guards at the door to keep a clear passage to the entrance, the crowd being very great; the chapel was filled with nobility and gentry; the altar, pulpit, desk, and the royal box, were covered with the finest black velvet. A most impressive sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Howlett, one of the Readers, who took his text from the 90th Psalm, 12th verse. "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

St. Ann's, Soho, was very full at an early hour.—The Rev. Dr. M'Leod delivered a most excellent discourse, suitable to the occasion; his text was, "The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away."

St. Paul's, Covent-garden, was well attended, and an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Rodbey, one of the Readers.

St. Andrew under Shaft.—A most excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. Wm. Antrobus, Rector, from the 23d chapter of St. Luke, 42d verse, "Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine, be done." The discourse was so pathetic, that many of the congregation were bedewed with tears.

St. Helen's Church made a melancholy and awful appearance, being all hung with black; after the service a most excellent discourse was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Blenkarne, M. A., Vicar.

Christ Church, Surrey.—An excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. J. H. Mapleton, Rector.

Rev. Rowland Hill's Chapel was hung with black, and a most pathetic discourse delivered by the Rev. Rowland Hill.

St. Martin's in the Fields.—The interior of this church made a most melancholy appearance, the fronts of the gallery being covered with black cloth, as were the columns supporting the roof; the window curtains were of black serge. The altar, the pulpit, and the desk, were covered with superfine black cloth. The canopy of the pulpit was painted black, surmounted with a black crown. All the charity boys and girls of the parish wore

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black crapes and ribbons. The church was crowded to an overflow, and many persons could not gain admission.

Charlotte-street Chapel.—A truly pious and energetic sermon was preached on the mournful occasion to a very numerous and respectable congregation.

St. Giles's Church.—This church made a most solemn and awful appearance, being completely hung in every part with black cloth, and the whole of the congregation exhibiting the most sable appearance, to whom the Rev. Mr. M'Carthy delivered a sermon, which was impressive, and most ingeniously adapted for the occasion. The church was crowded to excess.

St. Clement Danes.—The acknowledged talents and exemplary character of the Rev. Wm. Gurney, Rector, attracted a very numerous congregation, to whom the reverend Divine delivered a most excellent and pathetic discourse.

The Portuguese Ambassador's Chapel was attended by several of the English and Foreign Nobility, and High Mass was celebrated in a most solemn and magnificent manner. The singing and music were excellent.

The Sardinian Catholic Chapel, in Duke-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields.—This chapel was crowded at an early hour, the pulpit was covered with black cloth, and High Mass performed in a solemn manner.

St. Mary-le-Strand was well attended, and a most excellent sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Ellis.

St. Dunstan's in the West.—The altar and pulpit were covered with black cloth, and the congregation was numerous and respectable; the Rev. Richard Lloyd, A. M., Vicar, preached a most feeling and pathetic sermon that drew tears from the principal part of the congregation.

St. Bride's, Fleet-street.—This church, owing to St. Sepulchre's being out of repair, was intolerably crowded; some hundreds were necessitated to return from want of room; an excellent sermon was delivered by the Reverend Thomas Clare, Vicar, the substance of which came home to the feelings of all.

St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, and *St. James's, Clerkenwell.*

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were each so crowded, that we could not gain admission to learn who it was that preached.

Christ Church, Newgate-street.—This church was hung with black, the parish children and boys of Christ's Hospital were in the galleries, wearing black ribbons and crapes. The congregation were numerous and respectable. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Samuel Crowther, Vicar.

At Chelsea Church, of which the Hon. and Rev. Gerrard Wellesley is the Rector, the Rev. Mr. Rush preached from the 47th chapter of Genesis, and the 9th verse. "Few and evil have the days of the years of my life been."

St. Mary-le-bone Church, St. Martin's, and the *Asylum*, were equally well attended. Solemnity and grief of heart were conspicuous throughout.

There was a solemn service in the Roman Catholic Chapels of Warwick-street, Golden-square; and in Spanish-place, Manchester-square.

The German Lutheran Church, in the Savoy.—The pulpit which is placed near the altar, was covered with black, as well as the canopy over it. On one of the side walls were the escutcheons of the arms of the ever-to-be-lamented Princess Charlotte and her consort, the Prince of Saxe Coburg. The discourse was delivered in the German language.

The Philanthropic Society, the *Asylum for Female Orphans*, and the *Magdalen*, had their chapels hung with black, and they were well attended by the nobility.

At the *Charter-House* the day was observed with all possible solemnity and decorum. Indeed, the death of our beloved Princess has not (like the decease of many persons of high rank) been productive only of outward pomp and modish formalities; but it has stricken those who are unacquainted with grief with a silent and unspeakable awe, and those who have "waxed old" in afflictions, with a consciousness of the uncertainty of life, and the certainty of a final dissolution. As there was here a community both of the young and old, the above observation is particularly applicable to the scene of this day. Inexpressible grief was pictured in the countenance of every one, as the solemn procession

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moved towards their ancient and venerable chapel. A considerable number of the aged pensioners attended, whose hoary locks and benign aspect added great interest to the spectacle. The morning Service was read in a very impressive manner by the Rev. R. Watkinson, B.D., Second Master; and a sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Currey, Preacher to the Charter House, and Chaplain to the Duke of Gloucester. He took his text from 1 Cor. 15th chap., 55th verse; and from it delivered a discourse, which was felt by every auditor, and which eminently displayed the literary talents of the scholar, and the piety of the preacher. Most of the young gentlemen of the upper school evinced their respect by putting on mourning.

The following clergymen also delivered suitable discourses on the occasion:—

Rev. Mr. Rennell, at Kensington Church; Rev. Mr. Wood, at Fulham Church; Rev. Mr. Clark, at Park Chapel, Chelsea; Rev. T. Atwood, at Hammersmith Hamlet; Rev. R. Sandilands, jun., at Putney Church; Rev. Mr. Haughton, at Brompton Chapel; Rev. W. Butler, at Charlotte-street Chapel, Pimlico; Rev. Mr. Shepherd, at Ranelagh Chapel, Chelsea; Rev. Richard Sandilands, sen., at Ebury Chapel, in Five Fields; Rev. Philip S. Dodd, at Berkeley Chapel.

In the evening the principal churches were the chief objects of attraction, and they were crowded to excess; particularly, St. Martin's, St. Clement's, and St. Dunstan's in the West.—Hundreds endeavoured unsuccessfully to crowd into the aisles, but were compelled to return unsatisfied into the streets.

After the evening service the ulterior object of the multitude was to hear the deep-toned, solemn knell of the great bell in the metropolitan cathedral. At eight o'clock either side of St. Paul's Church-yard was nearly impassable. At that hour, being the

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moment at which it was arranged that the sad but magnificent funeral procession should set out from the Lower Lodge, for the place of royal interment, the great bell began its solemn toll, it vibrated to the hearts, as well as on the ears, of the mournful and attentive auditors. It was not *muffled*, and its sound reverberated on the ear at intervals of less than a minute. The mode adopted for producing the sound was not through the ordinary process of rotatory motion, but by means of a rope attached to the clapper to strike there with the side of the bell, which mode has long been practised, with the largest bell in the known world, viz., that in the patriarchal church of Moscow, which is called " St. Anne," being a present from the Empress of that name to the great church of the ancient capital of Russia. Next to St. Paul's bell, with solemn and imposing sound, vibrated the great one in the church of St. Mary-le-Bow, familiarly known by the appellation of " Bow Bell." Its tone, which is sonorous, and powerful, though not of a striking bass, attracted numbers; and we venture to say, that never on any former occasion, at such an hour of the night, were such crowds assembled. They choked up the avenues from the bottom of Ludgate-hill to the eastern extremity of Cheapside; and they were not merely clad in the exterior garb of woe, but their countenances portrayed the genuine sorrow of their hearts.

Throughout the whole empire the rueful news of her Royal Highness's decease was felt like the stroke of death. The provincial papers teemed

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with accounts of heart-rending grief for the loss. In many towns the bells were tolled for whole days together, as though every family had lost its dearest member.

Amongst other places, Deal was conspicuous in its demonstrations of sorrow, and respect for the memory of our departed Saint. Not only were all the shops, banks, and other places of business shut, but a great number of private houses closed their windows, and the inhabitants, with one accord, gave themselves up to religious exercises; appropriate, affecting, and truly pious discourses, were delivered by the respective ministers of the parish church and chapel of ease, to the most crowded congregations Nor were the Protestant Dissenters less forward in testifying their grief and respect; their meeting-houses were clothed in the garb of woe, and the solemn services of the day were performed in the midst of lamentations fervent and sincere. The mayor and corporation, in full but mournful procession, attended divine service at the chapel of St. George. The ships in the Downs, and the flag-staffs on shore, hoisted their colours half-mast high; and from eight till nine o'clock in the evening, minute guns were fired from Sandown Castle, the church bells were muffled; and, in short, the demonstrations of grief were so general and so genuine, that the remembrance of them, and of the occasion which gave rise to them, will live to the latest posterity.

In the towns of Milford, Pembroke, and Haverfordwest, the shops were shut, and business entirely

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suspended. At the latter place, the church bells were muffled, and kept tolling at intervals for several days; at the different chapels and places of worship there was a thronged attendance, and some very impressive and appropriate discourses were delivered; in the evening the mayor and corporation, accompanied by all the principal gentlemen, &c., together with an immense number of the inhabitants, attended divine service at St. Mary's Church, where a most excellent sermon was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Thomas, the Rector, the text from the 7th chapter of Ecclesiastes, 2d verse—"It is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting." The whole of the day was observed with solemnity suited to the melancholy occasion, and clearly evinced the deep concern which this ever-to-be-lamented event has impressed upon the hearts of all ranks in the neighbourhood.

The following letters will best convey to the reader the sensation produced in different parts of the country by the melancholy event.

BRISTOL, NOV. 9.

"We were in the most awful suspense about the dreadful news till the arrival of the London mail. I was on the Exchange when it approached; the sound of the horn seemed to strike horror into every soul. A great crowd was collected, who then instantly rushed round the mail, inquiring of the guard if the news were true; he replied, 'Both are dead!' 'Both are dead!' was reverberated by the crowd, and

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the flash spread like lightning. Dejection marked every countenance; and I think it is not too much to say, that 'tears gushed into every eye.' So eager was the demand for the newspapers, that they sold at eighteen-pence each; and persons were seen in all directions devouring, with the greatest avidity, their mournful contents. During the remainder of the day, nothing but condolence was heard. Every public 'sign of woe' that could be made, has been done by the tolling of the church bells, by the hoisting of flags half-mast high on public buildings and ships, and by the other usual demonstrations."

DOVER, Nov. 9.

"Every preparation had been made at the Castle and Heights to announce, not only to our town-folks, but to our neighbours the French, by letting off a considerable number of Congreve rockets, the birth of an heir to the British dominions; and every one was on the tiptoe of expectation for the arrival of this epoch, which was to spread universal joy over the land. The first check to this effusion of gladness, was the arrival of a despatch at four P. M. on Thursday, to the Earl of Liverpool, who was then sitting as President to the Cinque Ports Anniversary Bible Meeting, announcing the accouchement of the Princess, and its attendant consequences; upon which, the Earl set off instantly for Walmer Castle, and from thence to London. About seven in the evening, another express arrived addressed to Lord Castlereagh, who was staying at the Governor's apartments at the Castle, with the dreadful tidings of the decease of

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England's hope, the Princess Charlotte; and his Lordship, attended by Mr. Planta, lost no time in proceeding to London. Upon the confirmation of the distressing intelligence, the following morning, every soul was struck with dismay and consternation; every vessel in the harbour hoisted her colours half-mast, and the vessels belonging to the French nation paid the same tribute of respect, which has continued for several days. As far as the shortness of time would admit, the mourning to-day has been pretty general. A number of couriers to the different powers of Europe, with the disastrous news, have embarked since Friday."

BRIGHTON, Nov. 10.

"The national calamity, occasioned by the death of the most amiable and sincerely beloved Princess Charlotte, has caused a sensation in this town too deep and heartfelt for language to describe; every one appears to have felt it as a dreadful misfortune attaching to his own family, and every countenance has shed that inward feeling 'which passeth show,' and which it will be long impossible for agonized nature to shake off, and never to forget. The various places of public amusement are now stripped of their powers to amuse, and gloom and melancholy have complete possession of the town. The arrivals of last week were but moderate; the departures, comparatively, were numerous."

LEWES, Nov. 10.

"The arrival of the London prints here, on Friday morning, announcing the death of her Royal High-

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ness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, gave a shock not to be described to the whole population of our town. The mournful countenances, the genuine expressions of grief, and the solemn sound of the doleful knell, which succeeded, all combined to mark, indelibly, the melancholy day. The theatre was very properly closed on the sad occasion; and, in fine, the same sorrowful feeling pervaded all ranks of society, and even amongst the lowest, signs of condolence appeared manifest."

DUBLIN, Nov. 10.

"It is with the deepest sorrow that we announce the melancholy event of the decease of the Princess Charlotte, which took place at Claremont at half-past two o'clock on Thursday morning, after her Royal Highness had given birth to a still-born male infant. We must suffer our readers to collect the particulars from the statements of the London papers, and the official documents, all of which we copy in the fullest detail. The accounts of this double-headed calamity were received in town yesterday, and certainly no circumstance which has occurred within our recollection, ever caused to the public feeling so general and agonizing a shock. The sensation which was produced was not simply that of disappointment, or pity, or grief—it had in it much more of consternation! Every countenance expressed astonishment and anguish—every individual felt as if suddenly overwhelmed by some deplorable misfortune—every family seemed as if it lost one of its dearest members. We know, in short, no event which could at this time

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produce such intense emotion, as was exhibited in every quarter of this city, from the moment at which the lamentable tidings were made known. The people appeared to be wholly unprepared for such a visitation. The soundness of the Princess's constitution, the great regularity of her life, the excellence of the arrangements which it was believed had been made for her confinement, and the high professional character of her medical attendants, had nearly obliterated all apprehension of the heart-rending catastrophe which has happened. We will not attempt to express what we feel upon this occasion ourselves. Independent of the important political considerations to which so heavy a national infliction must give rise, it is impossible to contemplate a domestic calamity of so affecting a description, without sensations of the profoundest regret. To see a sensible, amiable, and accomplished female, with such brilliant prospects, such endearing connexions, and such excellent dispositions, snatched away from this life almost as soon as she had begun to enjoy it—to see the heiress of a throne, the hope of an empire, the only child of a Prince, and the benevolent wife of a doating husband, carried off at a moment's warning, in the very morning of her days, in the full possession of youth, and health, and happiness, is a lesson too awful and too afflicting not to touch the most obdurate heart!"

DUBLIN, Nov. 20.

"Yesterday was a day of mourning in Dublin. All the Public Offices, Law Courts, Custom-House, Post Office, Boards, Institutions, Libraries, and shops,

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were closed. No newspapers, a thing unprecedented, we believe, in the annals of the diurnal press, were published yesterday. No carriages were seen in the streets, except a few taking the elder branches of the gentry to and from public worship. Also the churches, Protestant, Catholic, and Dissenting, of all denominations, were crowded with their respective members; and, for the first time in Ireland, not a single individual appeared in the street out of mourning. National joy is a very lively and striking exhibition. We are sure that national sorrow, as it is more touching, is calculated in a still greater degree to shew the character of a people in a more amiable and interesting point of view. The first partakes, in some respect, of selfishness and pride; the latter manifests gratitude of affection—gratitude too of the purest kind, and affection which has a tincture of the Divinity. Those who have witnessed the exhibition of yesterday—those who have participated in the solemn rites of the day (and who has not?) will never forget the impression it has left behind."

OXFORD, Nov. 15.

"In our retirement, we have painted to ourselves what was, and what now is; we have followed the course of events—the war successfully terminated—trade and manufacture reviving—a Heiress to the Throne of our country, full of health and animation, married to the man she adored, and adored by the man she married—an Englishwoman, born amongst us, beloved by all; her character, both religious and moral, unsullied—a few, a very few days since, walk-

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ing with her beloved consort in the gardens of Claremont, and anticipating, what all fondly anticipated, the appearance of the pledge of their mutual loves, the hope and the glory of themselves and the country—their country, full of anxiety, waiting with impatience for a confirmation of their hopes and wishes; preparing for public rejoicings, and viewing, in the mind's eye, a long line of splendid progeny—a long, long succession of Sovereigns, descendants of our present beloved Monarch. Alas! in the bitterness of anguish be it spoken, all our hopes and all our wishes are crushed, are annihilated—for our Princess is dead!

"Every paper in the kingdom bears ample testimony to the feeling of all resident within its circuit; in almost every city and town, shops are partly shut; the inhabitants are in deep mourning; all places of amusement closed; the churches hung with black; even clubs and other convivial meetings suspended, and sorrow depicted on every countenance.

"Sunday the Rev. Dr. Green, one of our city lecturers, preached before the corporation; his subject was appropriate, and taken from the 90th Psalm—'So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.' In his discourse, he feelingly addressed his auditors on the melancholy subject of the deeply-deplored loss of our lamented Princess."

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MANCHESTER, Nov. 11.

"Under the pressure of an awful event, so deeply afflicting to the Royal Family, and so universally deplored, as the recent death of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, the Boroughreeves and Constables of Manchester and Salford could not fail to embrace the earliest opportunity of giving effect to the sorrowful feelings which at this moment pervade the inhabitants of these towns. A public meeting is therefore appointed to be held in the Large Room of the Police Buildings, in King-street, Manchester, on Friday, the 14th instant, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon precisely, for the purpose of preparing a dutiful, loyal, and affectionate address of condolence to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent; and of adopting such other local testimonies of sorrow and respect, as may best accord with the solemnity and importance of this mournful occasion. The expression of regret threw a damp on business, which, for the day, was almost suspended. The stillness of the sale-rooms throughout the town, afforded additional proof of the deep impression which had been made by the awful visitation."

WEYMOUTH, Nov. 20.

"Yesterday being the day appointed for the funeral of the ever-to-be-regretted Princess Charlotte of Wales, it was observed here with the most mournful solemnities. The day was set

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apart for divine worship; and on this melancholy occasion every shop was shut, every house was closed, and the church and different dissenting chapels were hung with black cloth. The church, both morning and evening, was crowded to overflowing; all joined in one devotional tribute of respect to the memory of the illustrious and lamented dead. The very Rev. the Dean of Salisbury read prayers with the most awful sanctity. The Rev. Dr. England, Archdeacon of the Diocese, preached a most affecting sermon, from the following text:—Psal. lxxxix. ver. 47, 'What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death.' And in the evening, the Rev. G. Chamberlain, Rector of Wyke and Weymouth, delivered a most excellent discourse from the 75th verse of the 119th Psalm—'I know, O Lord, thy judgments are right, and that thou of very faithfulness hast caused me to be troubled.'

"If the rest of the British people bewailed deeply the loss of this amiable Princess, it may be allowed to us to indulge in agonizing grief—to us, who have been accustomed to see this endearing Princess form a part of that congregation which yesterday heard the reverend Divines paint in true and eloquent colours, her incomparable virtues. We had witnessed, during two successive seasons, which she passed among us, those charitable dispositions, those affable and endearing manners, those elegant attainments, which formed her bright character.

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"The endowments of her mind, and accomplishments, would have been an ornament to any station; but when we looked forward to the period when, in the course of events, she was to rule a mighty empire, we contemplated them with feelings of the greatest satisfaction; but, alas! our hopes have been disappointed! She, who a few days ago (in the words of the late Mr. Burke), was 'full of life, of splendour, and joy,' young in years, rich in wisdom, adored and beloved by her royal and affectionate Father, inexpressibly endeared to the best of husbands, an example of every virtue, a nation's pride and hope, has been suddenly taken from us! The All-wise Disposer of events has, for the purposes of his unerring wisdom, thus chastised the people, and it is not for us to arraign the ways of Providence.

"By the numerous charitable institutions in this town, which she patronised and promoted, her loss will be long and severely felt. By the inhabitants her death is universally and deeply lamented, as if all had been deprived of a near relative. Perhaps in no part of the British empire has our venerable Sovereign and his Family been better known; nor can any be more endeared to their nearest dependent, than the Family of our gracious Sovereign have been to the inhabitants of this town."

EDINBURGH, NOV. 20.

"Last night being the time appointed for the funeral of the Princess Charlotte of Wales, the

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same was observed in this city with becoming solemnity. On Monday a notice was issued by the magistrates, informing the inhabitants that the churches would be opened for divine service at two 'clock yesterday afternoon, and suggesting to their fellow-citizens the propriety of closing their shops, &c., at that hour, which was fully acted upon. At one o'clock the bells began to toll, and before half past every office and shop was shut up, and all business suspended. At four o'clock the bells again tolled till five; again at six, and continued till eight. The streets were remarkably quiet throughout the evening.

"In the High Church an excellent and appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. David Ritchie, of St. Andrew's Church, from Job. iii., verse 19—'The great and small are there,' before the Lord Provost and Magistrates, the Lords of Session, the Lord Advocate, the Commander of the Forces, the officers of the North British Staff, and a number of other military officers, and one of the most crowded audiences we ever saw in that church. All persons seemed deeply affected. Sermons suitable to the solemn occasion were preached in the different established churches and episcopal chapels of this city, with the exception of St. Cuthbert's, St. George's, and St. Andrews, (the latter under repair) and in almost every other place of public worship, and all were well attended."

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ANDOVER, NOV. 14.

"It gives us great pleasure to record the patriotic and sympathetic feeling of this loyal town and its vicinity, on the death of our lamented Princess Charlotte. On the arrival of the melancholy tidings, an universal gloom pervaded the whole place, and every kind of business and gaiety was in a moment at an end. The unwelcome news was soon extended to the adjoining villages, and among them that of Longparish was one of the most conspicuous in anxiety to manifest its grief on the mournful occasion: the minute bell there tolled from six in the evening till midnight, and an evening service was performed with appropriate anthems. On the following Sunday, a well-adapted sermon was preached by the Rev. Robert Cole, and the inhabitants (at the request of Major Hawker, and the other principal residents) anticipated the general order, by appearing immediately in mourning."

The *Moniteur* of the 27th, added to the proofs of sympathy manifested by the people of France for our great national bereavement, by an interesting memoir of our departed Princess. It is made up chiefly from our own journals, but adds the following pleasing instance of that delicacy of sentiment, for which the Princess Charlotte was so distinguished.

"What Frenchman can learn without profound emotion, that during the exile of our Royal Family, she participated in their sorrows, and

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that when Providence restored this august Family to us, she rejoiced in their prosperity, and expressed it in a manner which proved how much her attachment to them was noble and sincere! It was she who sent to a Princess, dear to all France, whose virtues and rare qualities she acknowledged, whose great soul she admired, and whom, in beneficence and nobleness of character, she particularly resembled, a bunch of lilies, as a presage of the restoration of the Bourbons to the throne; as a token of the wish which she formed with all Frenchmen for that event; and to which Heaven has at length, happily for our prosperity, and for the repose of the world, deigned to lend a favourable ear."

The performance at Drury-lane Theatre, on the evening of the 21st, being the first night of opening since the demise of the Princess Charlotte, is entitled to the warmest approbation. It was sanctioned by the Committee of Management, for the benefit of certain individuals connected with the establishment, who had suffered from the shutting up of the theatre on the late melancholy occasion, and whose circumstances were such as to make the loss sustained a serious object to them.

Every care was taken to render the whole business of the evening an appropriate tribute to the memory of her, whose untimely loss the nation is doomed to deplore. All the cushions in front of the boxes were covered with black; the

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pillars which sustained the several tiers were also put in mourning, and adorned at the top with bows of white ribands. A funeral escutcheon was suspended on the left side of the audience part of the theatre; and if any thing were wanting to make the sable picture complete, it was supplied by the dresses of the numerous audience, among whom it was hardly possible to point out a single man or woman who was out of mourning.

Mozart's Requiem opened the solemn harmony of the evening, in a manner well suited to the occasion. The chorusses were admirably performed. Miss Byrne, when the first part was about to close, sung "Angels ever bright and fair," with infinite sweetness and taste, and was loudly *encored*.

At the opening of the second part, the following Monody was spoken by Mrs. Bartley:—

Britons! although our task is but to show
The scenes and passions of fictitious woe;
Think not we come, this night, without a part
In that deep sorrow of the public heart,
Which, like a shade, hath darken'd every place,
And moisten'd with a tear the manliest face.
The bell is scarcely hush'd in Windsor's piles,
That toll'd a requiem through the solemn aisles
For her, the Royal Flow'r, low laid in dust,
That was your fairest hope—your fondest trust.
Unconscious of the doom—we dreamt—alas!—
That even these walls—ere many months should pass—
(Which but return sad accents for her now)
Perhaps had witnessed her benignant brow,

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Cheer'd by the voice ye would have rais'd on high
In burst of British love and loyalty.
But Britain, now thy gen'rous people mourn,
And Claremont's home of love is left forlorn;
There, where the happiest of the happy dwelt,
The 'scutcheon glooms—and Royalty hath felt
A wound, that every bosom feels its own—
The blessing of a father's heart o'erthrown—
The best belov'd—and most devoted bride
Torn from an agonized husband's side—
Who 'long as memory holds her seat' shall view
The speechless, more than spoken, last adieu!
When the fix'd eye, long looked connubial faith,
And beam'd affection in the trance of death.
Sad was the pomp that yesternight beheld,
As with the mourner's heart the anthem swell'd,
Where torch succeeding torch, illum'd each high
And banner'd arch of England's chivalry;
The high-plum'd canopy, the gorgeous pall,
The sacred march, and sable vested wall;—
These were not rites of inexpressive show,
But hallowed as the types of real woe.—
Daughter of England; for a Nation's sighs,
A Nation's heart, went with thine obsequies:
And oft shall time revert a look of grief,
On thine existence, beautiful and brief.
Fair Spirit, send thy blessing from above,
To realms where thou art canonized by love;
Give to a Father's—Husband's—bleeding mind,
The peace that Angels lend to human kind.—
To us, who in thy lov'd remembrance feel
A sorrowing yet a soul-ennobling zeal—
A loyalty that touches all the best
And loftiest principles of England's breast.
Still may thy name speak concord from the tomb—
Still in the Muse's breath thy memory bloom;

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They shall describe thy life, thy form portray;
But all the Love that mourns thee swept away,
'Tis not in language or expressive arts
To paint—ye feel it, Britons, in your hearts!

Handel's Funeral Anthem was listened to with sincere admiration. The words were perfectly in unison with the feelings of the audience.

'When the ear heard her, then it blessed her; and when the eye saw her, it gave witness of her.

'She delivered the poor that cried; kindness, meekness, and comfort were in her tongue, &c.'

'Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty,' was done perfect justice to, by the exquisite melody of Mrs. Salmon, and was most rapturously *encored*. 'Gentle Airs,' finely sung by Mr. T. Cooke, was also demanded again.

The Anthem composed by the late Rev. Dr. Blake, called for peculiar attention. But eight and forty hours before, the same sounds were heard in St. George's Chapel—the same solemn strains were echoed from the open grave of the beloved and lamented Charlotte. The touching effect of the renewal of a scene, so recent and so sad, may be easier conceived than described. No shouts of boisterous applause marked the feeling which it excited; it was listened to with silent, universal attention—with profound and unaffected sorrow.

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The decease of the Princess Charlotte called into action all the poetical talent of the country. Poets and poetasters daily sent their lucubrations to the diurnal prints.

> And some now wrote who never wrote before,
> And those who often wrote, now wrote the more.

To particularize any individual poem would be invidious, considering that several of them display some of the finest specimens of versification; and the merits of which have been already duly appreciated by a discerning public. We cannot, however, refrain from communicating to our readers the following 'Funeral Wreath,' which was handsomely handed to us by the author, —— Thompson, Esq., assistant secretary for charities to his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent:—

THE Sun had set,—the Stars were shining,
And not a cloud betoken'd sorrow:
Where youthful Hope her brow was twining,
To hail the promised joy to-morrow.
And fair as Heaven's own holiest light,
Were the visions of bliss that illumined the night;
And pure as Cherubim's golden dreams,
Were the wishes and prayers on that eve ascending;
And soft as a Summer sun's parting beams,
The Rainbow of promise its tints was blending:
All lovely and still,—as if earth and air
Were waiting the birth of an Empire's heir.
For the Rose-bud of England bloom'd bright in its bower,
And Happiness smiled on the Princely flower,
Yet a Nation's pride, and a Nation's power,
Were fix'd on the fate of that midnight hour.

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The Sun is set,—the Stars are shining,
But all their loveliest beams are clouded;
And Grief her Cypress wreath is twining,
To deck the bier where bliss lies shrouded.
For there beneath the coffin lid,
An Empire's fondest hopes are hid,
The Bridal pomp, and garlands sweet,
Are veil'd in Pall, and winding-sheet;
The spell is burst!—the charm is sever'd
Like Mountain-pine by lightning shiver'd:
The Island crown has lost a gem,
Torn from its regal diadem,
And the lonely bud on its Parent bough,
Shall never again in beauty blow!

A Kingdom's Heiress yields her breath,
On earth her radiant course is ended;
Her seraph form is pale in death,
To the deep and dreary grave descended;
And there a People's tears are shed
O'er the sufferer's last and lowly bed,
And there unearthly tongues are singing,
Unearthly hands her knell are ringing.
—Where the sainted Bride is sleeping,
Sister Angels watch are keeping,
Airy Spirits hovering nigh,
Waft her Requiem's melody.

The Spirits' Dirge.

Peaceful and still is the sleep of the dead,
When they rest from the sorrows that circle them here;
And soft the repose of the Sepulchre's bed,
Where the Angels of Innocence watch round its bier.
Then rest thee, fair Princess!—all tranquilly sleeping,
Though sceptre and sway from thy lineage are riven;
Thy memory on earth shall be hallow'd with weeping,
Thy brows shall be bound with the garlands of Heaven.

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Farewell,—sweetest blossom of Albion's renown!
Though sad are the tears that a kingdom weeps o'er thee;
Yet the stars of the sky form the gems of thy crown,
And the pearl gates of Paradise open before thee.
Then Peace to thee, Fair-one!—so tranquilly sleeping,
All soft be the slumber that pillows thy rest;
The Land of thy love now embalms thee with weeping,
And Angels enthrone thee in realms of the blest!

J. T.

For the defects of the following Monody, the author of these Memoirs is alone accountable. He is well aware that a critical eye may discover many, and the only praise which he can take to himself is, in having failed in an attempt in which complete success is so difficult to be obtained.

WHEN the fond heart, to misery long a prey,
Finds its last cherish'd wishes die away,
Feels that its slender hopes are all destroyed,
How dark then seems the solitary void!
How poor! how drear the bosom of the land,
Where death has plac'd his desolating hand;
When the bright orb, whose light our path hath cheer'd,
In sudden gloominess hath disappeared,
No more to shine!—Oh, that can never be!—
The sun may gild again the dark blue sea;
The moon may beam once more above her cloud;
But She, whose form lies cold within its shroud,
Whose look was loveliness, whose soul was truth,
Cropp'd in the summer-day of smiling youth,
Can never more arise, her ray to shed,
And burst the cloud her loss has round us spread!—
A loss, which all with aching hearts must feel,
Whose wishes centre in their country's weal.

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We mourn like those, of every hope forlorn,
Whose night of sorrow never knows a morn;
And dwell in painful retrospection oft,
On one, so kind, so lovely, and so soft.
Oh! what avail they, all the gifts of mind,
That rose so far superior to her kind;
The flow of eloquence, the burst of wit,
From lips, where love enamour'd joy'd to sit;
The smile of gladness, and the open brow;
The heart of goodness—what avail they now?
Ah! what avail the days of gentleness,
The friend's embrace, the parent's fond caress,
The giddy whirl of splendor, the acclaim
Of people happy in their country's fame!
Rul'd by unerring laws, supreme o'er all,
Kingdoms, like kings, successive rise and fall.
Earth boasts not bliss, without its share of woe,
And grief e'en settles on a monarch's brow.

Sweet shines the rose-bud to the gazer's view,
And sweet the snowdrop with its emerald hue;
Bright in the genial beam their beauties shine,
And close their foliage in the day's decline:
But, ere to-morrow's sun has tinged the sky,
By storms defaced, the lovely flow'rets lie.
So shone the fairest Rose of England's pride,
A Daughter duteous, and a happy Bride.—
In sweet seclusion pass'd her virtuous days,
In full enjoyment of a nation's praise.
The time approach'd, fraught with a mother's bliss,
Bringing the rapture of the parent's kiss—
Infuriate came the dreadful Spoiler on,
Nor spared the mother, nor the infant son;
In one dread hour, a nation's hopes were lost,
A husband's solace and a father's boast.

Her every action, all her worth below,
Give but a double poignance to our woe;

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Serve but to tell the joys we might have known,
Had Heaven but spar'd her to adorn a throne.
But yet—oh, yet!—whilst in our bosom dwells
One tender wish towards that which here excels,
One fond regret for worth, surpassing far
Earth's brightest children—England's fallen star!
Here let us pay the tribute to her dust,
And ease the heart of sorrow, ere it burst.—
Oh, she was good—Death never yet hath borne
So pure a spirit from the land forlorn;
His iron sceptre never yet hath press'd
On form so fair, and lull'd it into rest;
Oh, never watch'd he yet such eyes' decay
As those, whose anguish wept their sight away;
Oh, never darted on the wings of air,
So sweet a form as late was gliding there!

But she is gone!—Death ever takes the best
From earthly trouble to eternal rest;
And we are left without a prospect more
To see such seraph light upon our shore!

And thou, sad Native of a distant realm,
Say, does this flood of woe thy soul o'erwhelm;
Dost thou, with tearful eye, and folded arms,
Beside her stand, and watch her fading charms;
Or dost thou sit and brood o'er thy distress,
In all the agony of hopelessness?—
Awake—arouse thee from that stupor deep,
Thou canst not burst the bonds of that dark sleep;
Thou canst not call again the soul to earth,
Which sunk o'erpower'd by that untimely birth!
Calm, calm thy aching bosom—she has flown
To realms where happiness is found alone;
She is, with higher beings, purer forms,
Above the world—its troubles and its storms!—
Great is thy cause for sorrow—and thy heart
Must sicken thus to lose its dearer part;

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But, thou art firm, and thou may'st bear it yet,
Tho' oft thy brow be sad—thine eye-lid wet.
The time will come—when, bless'd in realms above,
Thou'lt meet the object of thy fervent love.
Till then, resign'd—in humble faith repose,
And find in virtue's path—a balsam for thy woes!

Amongst the many political questions, which were agitated on the demise of the Princess Charlotte, one of the most important was, the incompatibility of the Duke of York, as next in succession to the crown, holding his situation as Commander-in-Chief; but, there are some persons whose politics are tinctured with so much rancour, that they will strive to extract from the most melancholy events, topics for the indulgence of party spleen. Of this kind are all those writers, who have recently employed themselves in trying to excite needless anxiety in the nation, about the succession to the Throne. Fortunately, this is a subject on which the mind of every sensible man is so thoroughly satisfied, by the state of the Royal Family, and by the provisions of the statute and common law of the kingdom, that no attempt to agitate the public mind upon it can be successful. It has, therefore, become necessary for the party politicians, to fix upon some other topic. The Duke of York, and his office of Commander-in-Chief, are now brought into play. It has been attempted to show, that the office of Commander-in-Chief is, according to the principles of the

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British Constitution, incompatible with the situation of that member of the Royal Family, who is next in succession to the crown.

Assuming this as a thing quite settled, the necessity was urged, of the Duke of York's resignation of that high office, which he has so long exercised to the benefit of every officer and private who has entered His Majesty's service; to the improvement of discipline and good order in the army; to the honor and glory of the country. Can it be really supposed that it would not be a serious misfortune to the nation at large, as well as to the army, to be deprived of such signal services as those which have been rendered, and which are every day continued, by his Royal Highness the Duke of York? Admitting that there was any force in the constitutional question thus started, would it be wise that any scrupulous punctilios of rank should interfere to the injury of the public service. If the Duke of York were as weak and inefficient in the discharge of business as he is vigorous and indefatigable, or if he were no more than moderately fitted for the office, we might be disposed, at least, to listen to the objection of formalists and nice discriminators of ranks and offices. But looking at the unexampled ability, the honorable impartiality, and the zealous attention to business, which have distinguished the Duke of York as the best Commander-in-Chief who ever held the office, and which have endeared him to the army and to the people, we

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are persuaded there would be but one voice throughout the nation against allowing any objection of mere form to intrust the duties of his office to other hands. So much for the constitutional scruples of the party writers, admitting that there is any constitutional objection. But we deny that there is any objection in point of constitutional form against the person next in succession to the throne holding the command of the army. We deny that, either in principle or practice, it can be shewn to be against the Constitution; and we challenge the production of any precedent to shew that it is, or of any solid argument to shew why it should be so.

The correspondence of his Majesty and the Duke of York and Mr. Addington with the Prince of Wales, in 1803, is referred to. Let any one passage in that correspondence be pointed out which proves that the request of the Prince of Wales was refused by reason of any constitutional objection. There is no such passage. But truly if there were, common modesty should have made those, who admire Mr. Fox as the mirror of constitutional knowledge, refrain from referring to that correspondence; for his indignation (as well as their own) at the refusal of military command to the Prince of Wales cannot be quite forgotten. Yet such are the follies and blunders of the party which raised this objection, that it refers to this refusal as a fit precedent to be now followed! as if, forsooth, the circumstances which

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prompted that request, and the cause of its refusal, had any resemblance to the circumstances of the present case—as if the Prince of Wales was refused the command of the army in 1803, merely because he was next in succession to the throne. But were we even, for the sake of argument, to grant for a moment the possibility of this having been the case, we would ask, Is the Duke of York at present really the next in succession to the crown? Most certainly he is not; and those who argue to the contrary, must first make us forget either the King or the Prince Regent before we consent to give up our point. The crown continues, of course, to belong to the King; and the Prince of Wales, and not the Duke of York, is next in succession to it. Are hen the King and the Prince Regent both forgotten, or which of them are we to remove in order to make good the position that the Duke of York is next in succession, while the Heir Apparent is alive? Such are the absurdities and nonsense into which those fall who endeavour to agitate the public mind for base party purposes, and who were themselves so lately the most strenuous advocates for the pretensions of even the Heir Apparent himself to extensive military command in the state.

Of the numerous mournful displays of honour and respect paid to the memory of our late deceased most amiable and lamented Princess Charlotte of Wales, not one was more appropriate and

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orderly in its appearance and procession, or did greater credit to its promoters, than that exhibited by the pre-eminent establishment of "The Loyal and Patriotic Institution of Ancient Britons, London." The Treasurer, &c., met at the School-house, in Gray's-inn-road, early in the morning, in order to manifest the sincerity of their sorrow, for the unexpected death of the only and dearly beloved child of their most munificent Prince and Patron; whence they proceeded to hear divine service performed by that truly eminent clergyman, Mr. Daniel Wilson, at St. John's Chapel, Bedford-row, in the following order, viz.:—The Treasurer, the two Vice-Treasurers, Chaplain, and Secretary, all in full mourning, followed by eighty boys of the charity (two deep), with black crape tied round their left arms; the schoolmaster, preceding twenty-five girls of the same charity, with black crape tied over white bonnets; the Governors and others of the domestic establishment closing the impressive procession; the whole exhibiting a truly mournful and solemn scene. After the ordinary service, which was performed in the most affecting manner, this good and pious minister of the Gospel, with eloquence peculiar to himself, and in a language most pathetic, delivered a superior discourse on this melancholy occasion, taking his text from 5th Lamentations, verses 15, 16, and 17; in which he expatiated at large on the uncertainty of all sublunary possessions, and the boundless virtues of our late departed and

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beloved Princess, and the irreparable national loss sustained by her death; during which, the whole congregation, and particularly these poor children of Welsh parentage, were most tenderly affected, and melted into grief and tears, at this truly dreadful calamity; nor was there an auditor who was not overwhelmed by sorrow and distress beyond any instance ever before publicly witnessed.

Having expatiated, at large, on the public expressions of grief, which were demonstrated throughout the country, our attention must now be directed to the situation of the afflicted and royal relatives of our departed Princess.

Prince Leopold, accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Short, arrived at Claremont, at two o'clock on the morning of the 20th, from Windsor, having left the Lower Lodge at a quarter-past twelve. The answer to the enquiries respecting his health was, "His Serene Highness is as well as can be expected." The Prince had very little sleep, as might be supposed, on his return home.

Divine Service was performed at Claremont, on Sunday, Nov. 23, by the Rev. Mr. Hammond; Prince Leopold, his attendants, and the principal part of the domestics were assembled on the occasion.

Symptoms of the typhus fever had begun to appear on Prince Leopold, occasioned by his very

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low state, but which were very happily discovered, and by timely applications their progress was prevented.

The Bishop of Salisbury paid his first visit of condolence on the 24th. The meeting was very affecting, the reverend Prelate having been Preceptor to the Princess for a number of years. Another affecting and distressing scene took place on the visit of Lord and Lady Ossulston, who had just returned from abroad. The Bishop of London also paid a visit of condolence.

The surrounding neighbours, and those who had the honour and delight of the acquaintance of the Princess and Prince, as well as the public characters who have been announced, were very kind and solicitous, in paying visits of condolence, and in their anxiety for the welfare and health of Prince Leopold.

A hatchment, with the Princess's arms, as a memorial of the death of the owner of the house, was placed in the front of the mansion-house, over the centre of the grand porch. A similar one was placed in the front of Camelford-house, in London.

On the Friday following, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, accompanied by the Rev. F. W. Blomberg, arrived at the Pavilion, at Brighton. Sir William Keppel and Colonel Thornton were the only persons who had previously arrived to receive and join the society of their illustrious and afflicted visitor. The only exercise which

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his Royal Highness took was confined to the stables and riding-school. On Sunday, Divine Service was performed by the Rev. W. Blomberg, before his Royal Highness the Prince Regent and his household, at the Pavilion. After the observance of religious duties, his Royal Highness was prevailed upon to enjoy a retired recreation along the eastern cliffs, on the road leading to Rottingdean. In the respectful salutations of the spectators, there was an intermixture of mournful expression that seemed to oppress him, for he could scarcely notice the sad scene as he passed. His Royal Highness appeared to be completely overpowered by his feelings, and, from the low attitude in which he rode on horseback, to be absorbed in meditation. Prince Castelcicala arrived in the evening, and dined with a small party of his Royal Highness.

Never was the national character of the country so proudly and eminently displayed, as on the occasion of the decease of the Princess Charlotte. It shewed the extent of British feeling, when waked by a national loss; and, in the estimation of foreigners, it has added more to the fame and honour of the country, than the noblest victory which was ever gained by her warriors. Mr. Kerr, the messenger, no sooner arrived at Brussels with dispatches to the Duke of Kent, an-

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nouncing the deplorable calamity, which we all lament, than the English, resident in that city, immediately abstained from frequenting all places of amusement, and every one appeared overwhelmed with that acute grief, which he would have felt upon the loss of a dear and valued friend. This simultaneous action on the part of the English gave rise to the following reflection:—

"That in England public respect imposes upon individuals the necessity of submitting to privations, is easy to be understood; but when, in a foreign country, the English voluntarily impose upon themselves sacrifices which attest their grief at the loss they have sustained, one cannot help recognizing that national spirit which produces prodigies, and which so boldly proclaims the attachment of Britons to the laws which rule, and the Royal Family which governs them."

The following statements which were expressed on the occasion by the editor of one of the French papers, reflect the highest credit upon his head and heart, and it must be highly pleasing to the British nation, to see itself thus represented by those who, but a short time ago, were its most inveterate foes.

"There is something in the misfortunes which overtake the great of the earth, that speaks at once to the imagination and the heart, and which does not allow any one to remain indifferent to the spectacle of those high and august calamities.

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The respect which they excite is doubled, when, to the idea of power descending to the grave, is united that of youth, grace, beauty, perishing in their flower of vanished hopes, and of a whole loyal posterity swallowed up at once by a single tomb. In such an aggregate of melancholy circumstances, piety, the common reward of humanity, removes distances, levels boundaries, lulls asleep remembrances, and unites every sentiment into one. The mourning of one becomes that of all nations, and it is then more than ever that they feel they are but one family. France will not, therefore, be insensible to a death, which has plunged England into a profound consternation. Naturally generous and feeling, the French will not see without emotion a father's and a husband's tears. They will represent to themselves, with lively sympathy, the desolation of a royal family, and the deep sorrow of a numerous population already displayed in so universal and unequivocal a manner. Never, in fact, has attachment to the constituent principles of the monarchy assumed a more general and solemn character than on this occasion. If in the days of prosperity sovereign power experiences in England frequent contradiction and obstacles, in those of calamity it receives nothing but consolations, homages, and prayers. It is because at such a moment, giving way to its real affections, the British nation feels but one single want, that of softening, by the free expres-

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sion of its sentiments, the sorrow of the rulers whom it glories in obeying."

Mr. Kerr having delivered his despatches at Brussels, proceeded to the Hague, to communicate to that court the deplorable event, and an official order was immediately published, for going into instantaneous mourning, and for continuing that mark of sympathy and respect longer than any other continental power. The most calumnious reports were immediately circulated in this country, respecting the manner in which the Prince of Orange received the melancholy intelligence, representing him to have treated it with the most unbecoming levity and indifference. We had a better opinion of the young warrior's heart: we knew that where courage and liberality are seated, feeling is never absent; and that the Prince had lived too long amongst us,—he had imbibed too much British spirit, and displayed too many excellent qualities,—to allow us for a single moment to suppose, that he would have been guilty of that cold apathy or revengeful meanness attributed to him, by those who appear to be the common calumniators of princes. We, therefore, were convinced that, even if the Prince of Orange did not feel, he would out of common decency feign regret, and not wantonly insult us and his father, by an open violation of every established custom, as well as of the ordinances of his sovereign.

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When the fatal intelligence was communicated to the Duke of Cambridge, at Hanover, he was at an assembly at his Excellency's the Minister Von Deiken. The party immediately broke up, and every individual appeared to participate in the general grief. The theatres and concert-rooms were shut, and all public amusements prohibited until further orders. The court, and all the civil and military authorities put on mourning.

The court of Wirtemburg went into mourning on the 18th of November, on account of the death of the lamented Princess Charlotte. The interesting Duchess of Oldenburgh, who visited this country with her brother the Emperor of Russia, was at that time Queen of Wirtemburg. The Queen Dowager of Wirtemburg is also the aunt of our lamented Princess; these circumstances rendered the mourning at Stutgard something more than a formal ceremony of state—it was a mourning for a family affliction.

The letters from Stockholm spoke of the melancholy event in the following terms: "We yesterday (Nov. 19,) received, by way of Hamburgh, the melancholy intelligence of the death of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales. The King and Prince Royal were both of them very deeply affected with the calamity which has fallen, not only upon the Royal Family of England, but upon the whole British nation, which had attached the dearest hopes to the existence of that young Princess.

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Lord Strangford not having received the news direct from London, Baron Echausen undertook, on the proposal of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Count Engestrom, to announce to his Excellency this event, in order to spare him the afflicting surprise of reading the news in a Gazette, without being prepared for it.

On the same evening, the King and the Prince Royal sent each their respective Chamberlains to wait upon Lord Strangford; to express their compliments of condolence, and to testify their deep sympathy in the melancholy loss which the Prince Regent and the whole of the English nation have suffered.

When the afflicting news of the Princess Charlotte's death reached Hamburgh, all persons, both natives of England, and foreigners, were deeply affected by the melancholy tidings. The English, whether resident or travellers, immediately on learning the fatal intelligence, refrained from attending all public amusements and parties of pleasure, and as soon as convenience would admit of it, they appeared in full mourning. Indeed, it may be said, that one and all acted from a spontaneous sentiment of admiration and affection for the virtues of the Princess, without waiting to know what had been done by their countrymen elsewhere; for true feeling waits not the authority of precedent to teach it how to weep, and is as remote from the affectation, as it is regardless of the forms of sorrow.

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At Havre de Grace, all the British subjects, of whom there were a great number at that place, went into deep mourning, and even the Prefect of the town, and other French persons in official situations, shewed the same respect. At Cambray, the grand head-quarters of the British army, the news of the premature and fatal death of the Princess Charlotte spread universal grief and dismay. The generals, the officers of all ranks, and the private soldiers, were seen to shed tears of affliction, when they were informed of it.

From these scenes of domestic grief—from this exemplary display of national feeling, let us for a while divert our view, and direct it to one spot in a foreign country, the residence of an illustrious lady, estranged by a wayward destiny from the enjoyment of the converse of the dearest being in the whole range of human society, for whom her heart cherished the warm emotions of affection and of love, and to whom she looked at some future period for her return to the enjoyment of those social habits, and those endearments of an affectionate intercourse, to which she had been so long a stranger. Impelled by a restless spirit, the sure concomitant of an uneasy mind, she sought in the distractions of a wandering life, in the change of scenery, and the study

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of men and manners of various climes, for an obliteration, if not forgetfulness of her woes—but, as the mariner, encircled by storms in midnight on the ocean, looks to the polar star and blesses its radiance, so looked this isolated lady to the shores of Britain, where lived the only one who could guide her shattered bark into the harbour of domestic happiness. The human heart, so long as it is supported by hope, looks with fortitude and resignation upon the casual calamities of life, and, penetrating the veil of futurity, beholds through a long perspective, scenes of brighter happiness gradually disclosing themselves, and finds in that cheering prospect, an alleviation of the accumulated woes, which then so heavily oppress it. Take, however, that hope away, and the human heart may be compared to a mass of ruins, on which, in cimmerian darkness, the fiend, Despair, sits solitarily brooding—where the feet of Consolation never trod, nor the voice of Religion was ever heard. In those heavy and severe griefs which lacerate the feelings, which stretch them to the intensity of agony, Sympathy, in an angel's form, bends over the sufferer, and with the styptic of consolation staunches the bleeding of the wound. But how wretched—how forlorn—how miserable must that being feel—when one of the heaviest calamities which can befal a human creature suddenly overtakes her, like an overpowering and devastating torrent, carrying away the last remnant of her hopes—and she looks

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around and finds herself single in the world, and knows not where to look for one breast on which her agonized head can repose. It is a spectacle of woe and desolation, of mental agony, and of human suffering; the heart of a mother, when bending over an expiring child, in that awful moment, when the dearest of human ties are about to be rent asunder, and the last faint glances of the eye tell, even in the throes of death the existence of filial love; even in that moment when the earth rattles on the coffin, and the succeeding one hides for ever from the eager and anxious look the tenement which holds the form that was beloved; even then the mother, though her tears may fall, feels some slight assuagement of her grief in the reflection, that all that maternal affection, anxiety, or solicitude could desire, was performed; that the last wishes were heard, and the last convulsive pressure of the hand received—which is never—never forgotten. But when a mother in a distant land, in full expectation of the blissful tidings being received of a life preserved, and a life bestowed—of a child being given, and of a mother saved; hears on a sudden the dreadful intelligence, that one hour saw them both consigned to the tomb, then what words can express a mother's feelings—and especially of one, whose particular situation would not admit of her being present, during the most important crisis of her daughter's life, when a mother's cares and attentions were so indis-

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pensably requisite *. Dreadful indeed must have been the shock; but let us hope that it came not upon her with the suddenness of the earthquake, but in the slow and gradual manner of the summer storm, in which the clouds are seen rising at a distance, and the thunder is faintly heard, but the flash which is to destroy the oak and the sapling, is not yet seen. There is a method of imparting distressing intelligence, which deprives it of a great portion of its poignancy; but, encircled in the forms of etiquette, it seldom falls to the lot of royalty to meet with the considerate friend, who will display by degrees the harrowing picture of grief, nor open it at once to lacerate every feeling which affection may have entwined around the human heart. In Christian charity, let us hope that the Princess of Wales found that friend; and it must have been a valuable consolation to her to know that her situation excited the warmest sympathy of a generous and afflicted nation; that it identified her sorrows with its own, and that in the midst of its lamentations for the daughter, it forgot not the tears of the mother.

On the arrival of Mr. Dykes, the messenger, at the residence of the Princess of Wales, her

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* Little doubt exists, that the request was actually made by the Princess Charlotte, that her mother might be present during her confinement, which, however, could not be complied with, for reasons too obvious to be here dilated upon.

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Royal Highness was just risen; and the dreadful intelligence was no sooner conveyed to her, than she fainted three times, and for some days afterwards seemed scarcely conscious of surrounding objects. Her health from that period has been visibly impaired, and the last accounts represent her Royal Highness to be still immersed in the deepest affliction *. The following singular

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* Some officious friends, or who may with more propriety be designated the enemies of the Princess of Wales, discovered a gross and intentional insult to her Royal Highness in the omission of her name on the *depositum* of her daughter: in order fully to refute those base insinuations, I annex copies of the inscriptions engraven upon the coffin plates of their Royal Highnesses the Princess Amelia, who died in 1786; the Princess Amelia (His Majesty's daughter,) who died in 1810; and of His Majesty's sister, the Duchess of Brunswick, who died in 1813; from a perusal of which it will be seen, that in none of these inscriptions was there any mention of the *mothers* of those illustrious individuals.

It may at the same time be observed, that the styles pronounced on the interment, never contain the name of the mother, except in those cases where the approximation or claim to the crown is derived through the maternal line; as in the case of the Duke of Gloucester, the son of Princess (afterwards Queen) Ann, by Prince George of Denmark.

DEPOSITUM
Illustrissimæ Principissæ Ameliæ Sophiæ Elenoræ
Filiæ natu secundæ Potentissimi Georgii Secundi,
Magnæ Britanniæ Franciæ et Hiberniæ Regis,
Defuncti. Obiit 31° die Octobris,
Anno MDCCLXXXVI.
Ætatis Suæ 76. DEPOSITUM

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fact has been transmitted to us, and it might almost be considered as a kind interposition of Providence to prepare the mind of her Royal

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DEPOSITUM
Illustrissimæ
Principissæ Ameliæ
Filiæ Sextæ et natu minimæ
Augustissimi et Potentissimi
Georgii Tertii,
Dei Gratia
Britanniarum Regis
Fidei Defensoris, &c.
Obiit 2da die Novembris, Anno Domini
MDCCCX°.
Ætatis Suæ XXVIII°.

DEPOSITUM
Illustrissimæ
Principissæ Augustæ Viduæ
Serenissimi Principis
Caroli Gulielmi Ferdinandi
Ducis Brunswici,
et Sororis.
Augustissimi et Potentissimi
Georgii Tertii,
Dei Gratia
Britanniarum Regis,
Fidei Defensoris, &c.
Obiit die vicesimo tertio Martii, Anno
MDCCCXIII.
Ætatis Suæ LXXVI.

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Highness for the dreadful shock, which it was doomed in a short time to encounter.

A few days previously to the arrival of the messenger conveying the melancholy tidings, her Royal Highness was perusing the funeral oration, from the pen of the eloquent Bossuet, on Henrietta, Duchess of Orleans, daughter of Charles I., who died at the early age of twenty-five. The following passage struck her Royal Highness so forcibly that she underlined it with her pencil, and it will now be seen how applicable it is to the object whose loss we deplore.

"Have we not lamented that the opening flower was suddenly blasted; that the picture, whose first warm touches excited such expectation, was suddenly effaced; this mournful exhibition of human vanity, this untimely death that chills the public hope? The usual march of death is by perceptible, but slow advances; in the *present instance* it was as rapid as it was alarming. Did we not behold her in the morning attired with every grace, embellished with every attraction; and in the evening, did we not behold her as a faded flower? Let us then survey her as death presents her to our view: yet even these mournful honours with which she is now encircled, will soon disappear; she will be despoiled of this melancholy decoration, and be conveyed into the dread receptacle, the last sombrous habitation, to sleep in dust with annihilated kings!

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"Let me however recall to your mind how she grew up amidst the wishes, the applause, and affection of a whole people. History, to which her attention was particularly directed, she used to call the Counsellor of Kings *. In the historic page, the greatest Monarchs assume no other rank than what they are entitled to by their virtues; degraded by the hand of death, they enter, unattended by flatterers, this severe court of justice, to receive the awful judgment of posterity."

Addresses of condolence to the Prince Regent and Prince Leopold, now poured in from all parts of the country; but to the honor of the Common Council of London, it must be recorded, that, however deeply sympathizing in the recent affliction, they with great propriety determined to abstain from presenting an Address to the Prince Regent on the melancholy death of his daughter. As such an address, must constitutionally have been received on the throne, and been replied to from thence, the emotions which it would have excited, would have been too acute and painful. The other addresses, with the exception of those from the Universities, as they produce no personal interview, stand on different

* I cannot positively determine, whether this oration of Bossuet was known to the Princess Charlotte; but it is a curious coincidence, that her Royal Highness, once speaking of history, said, "It is by history that Kings learn to govern."

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grounds; they would not, however, be more affecting than this very resolution of the Common Council, in which the exercise of the privilege of addressing is delicately declined.

The language of the addresses of public bodies assimilates in general so closely, that to transcribe the sentiments of one, is to display those of the whole; but of all addresses, those of condolence have the greatest affinity to each other. Grief has but one natural mode of expressing itself; and where it is genuine, as undoubtedly it was on the occasion of these addresses, the same ideas present themselves to the mind, and display themselves in the same words. To expatiate, therefore, upon the merits of any individual address, would be invidious; but there are some sentiments in the answers, which reflect the highest credit upon the head and heart which conceived them, and cannot fail to endear the illustrious mourner to that nation, in the love and esteem of which he has so deeply established himself. In the answer to the Address of the County of Surrey, Sir Robert Gardiner says:—

"The deep participation the country has shewn in his sorrows, whilst suffering under the most afflicting and unexampled national grief, may be, perhaps, brought nearer to his Serene Highness's feelings, in remembering that the virtues of her life, its example, its extensive and active good, were most intimately known and witnessed here; and the frequent and unquestionable proofs

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of affection shewn to the Princess Charlotte by the County of Surrey, had been acknowledged, and he can say, were held in her Royal Highness's highest estimation. The Prince Leopold feels assured, that in no instance has the national woe sunk deeper, or with more lasting and bitter regret, than among those whose manifestation of condolence he has now to acknowledge; the remembrance of their real and affectionate attachment to the Princess can never be shaken in the Prince Leopold's mind; and in their assurances of personal attachment, in their real interest in his sufferings, and in their fervent prayer for his restored happiness, he has received a source of high and lasting consolation."

The answer returned to the address of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood of Birmingham contains the following passage, which cannot fail of being duly appreciated by the British nation:—

"The Prince Leopold, in his own sorrows, shares in common with the country, its deep and irreparable loss: and as its interests, its happiness and welfare, were ever first in his thoughts and hope, so he receives in its sympathy and condolence, the only consolation he can now know."

The anxiety evinced by every one, however humble his situation, of obtaining, after her decease, a likeness of the Princess Charlotte, may with truth be said to have been without a parallel; and as it might be expected, many spurious

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portraits were put immediately in circulation. The following is a list of the genuine likenesses of her Royal Highness, and it may serve as a guide to those who wish to preserve a memento of that inestimable Princess. The first bust which was taken of her Royal Highness, was by Turnerelli, when she was seven years old; the second, when she was thirteen; and the third, on her marriage. Percy, the celebrated modeller, made several busts of her Royal Highness, which were chiefly taken during her residence at Weymouth and Warwick-House *.

* During one of the visits of the last-mentioned artist to Warwick-House, one of the distinguishing traits of the affable and condescending character of the Princess Charlotte, displayed itself. On the arrival of Mr. Percy, he was informed by Miss Knight, that the Princess was affected with a small gathering on one of her eyes, and did not expect that she could be seen; but Miss Knight, nevertheless, undertook to announce him, and he was immediately ordered into the presence of the Princess. On entering, her Royal Highness said, "How do you do, Percy? I am very glad to see you; when shall I sit." I have obeyed your Royal Highness, answered Mr. Percy, and it is for you to appoint the time.—"No," replied the Princess, "I'll suit your convenience." "I am come expressly to your Royal Highness's command, and your time is mine." Then turning to Miss Knight, her Royal Highness said, "Well, Miss Knight, what hour do you think best?" Miss Knight replied, that she thought twelve would be a convenient hour. "Well, Percy," said her Royal Highness, "will that hour suit you." "Certainly," replied Mr. Percy, and retired. On the following day he repaired to Warwick-House at the appointed time; and on entering the apartment of the Princess Charlotte, her

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The chief pictures are by Hayter, Chalons, Saunders, Dawe, and Sir Thomas Lawrence. Mr. Dawe enjoyed the pre-eminent honor of painting the Princess Charlotte, and her illustrious Consort, several times in various attitudes, (some of which pictures have been sent as presents to the Continent). This artist was closely engaged at Claremont till within a fortnight of the confinement of her Royal Highness, on a new likeness of the Princess, which, in its progress had given the greatest satisfaction. When her Royal Highness was no longer able to undergo the fatigue of sitting, the picture was removed to the residence of the artist. A few days after the demise of the Princess, and before the removal of the corpse, Prince Leopold sent an express, with orders to bring back the picture instantly. It is now at Claremont, and the contemplation of it often imparts a melancholy consolation to the illustrious widower.

The portrait which was painted by Sir Thomas Lawrence, was taken to Claremont on the birth-day of Prince Leopold, having been for some time

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Royal Highness said, "Well, Percy, how shall I sit?" "Your Royal Highness may sit as you please," said Mr. Percy, "no formal sitting is required." In a short time the Bishop of Salisbury was announced; and after a short desultory conversation between her Royal Highness, the Bishop, and Miss Knight, the former said, "There, my Lord, there's a mode of sitting, there's no form required—I may do as I please."

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in the possession of the Prince Regent at Carlton-House. This portrait was painted under the immediate inspection of Prince Leopold and the Princess Charlotte, and it was returned to Sir Thomas on the departure of Prince Leopold for Came, that a full-length copy might be taken of it, by command of the Prince Regent, for the purpose of having it engraved.

Very few miniatures of the Princess Charlotte are known to be in existence. That with which we have been particularly favoured, for the purpose of being engraved for these Memoirs, was presented by her Royal Highness herself to one of her most confidential friends, and about the same period her Royal Highness presented to Miss Elphinstone, a ring with the motto at the top, *A quella ch' io adoro,* "To her whom I love:" and at the bottom, *Console dans mon absence**, "Consolation in my absence."

By the particular kindness of two gentlemen, who were for many years in the habit of receiving the personal commands of her Royal Highness, and one of whom has in his possession several letters written by her, and a lock of her hair,

* Without calling in question the knowledge of the Princess Charlotte in the French language, the French reader will immediately discover an inaccuracy in the French motto, which renders a literal translation impossible. The original being in our possession, precludes all doubt of its authenticity, and we have therefore given it verbatim.

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we are enabled to present to our readers *fac similes* of the two mottos above-mentioned, as originally written by her Royal Highness, together with a *fac simile* of her signature to a document; the whole of which are engraved on the same plate with the piece of music composed by her Royal Highness.

The make of the hand and arm of the Princess Charlotte was considered to be so exactly conformable to the rules of symmetry, that a plaster cast of the hand and lower part of the arm was taken by a celebrated artist, and now stands on a table under a glass cover, in the private sitting-room of Prince Leopold.

Immediately on the decease of the Princess Charlotte, application was made by several artists for permission to take a mask likeness of the Princess. The permission was, however, very properly refused, for no justifiable pretence existed for making such an application, when so many excellent likenesses by the first artists are already before the public. It gave us some pleasure to see a check was given to this professional avarice; and we hope never again to witness in the followers of an elegant art, a conduct that argues, not merely a want of right feeling, but an ignorance of the common rules of decency and propriety.

The grief which was manifested at Windsor and its immediate vicinity for the loss of this amiable Princess, was not confined to the mere perform-

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ance of religious ceremonies on the day of general humiliation and prayer, but on the subsequent Sunday, divine service was resumed at St. George's Chapel, which remained in the same state as at the royal funeral on the preceding Wednesday, the whole of the choir being covered with black baize, and all the stalls hung with superfine black cloth. The church was crowded with gentry, many of whom were disappointed, as the service was performed in the same manner as at a general fast, without any music, and continued so while the appendages of sorrow remained. All the members present appeared in their funeral trimmings, consisting of the Dean, seven Canons, two minor Canons, and eleven lay Clerks. An impressive discourse upon the solemn occasion, from the 18th verse of the 2d chapter of St. Matthew, "In Rama there was a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning; Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not;" was delivered by the Honorable and Reverend Doctor Marsham, Canon in residence. At the commencement of the sermon, the preacher lamented his want of fortitude to enter upon a subject which was so deeply felt by many persons present, with whom the departed was a companion and a guide, and their own familiar friend, and who often took sweet counsel together, and walked into the house of God as friends. He drew a picture of her religious cha-

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racter, and introduced an historical comparison of her and King Edward VI. The effect of the whole discourse was visible upon the greatest part of the congregation, among whom was the Bishop of Salisbury, the Princess's preceptor, who was deeply affected. In the prayer previous to the sermon, the preacher implored the assistance of Providence towards the Royal Family, to enable them to bear their loss.

The following lines taken from Milton appear applicable to our recent calamitous loss, and might serve as an Epitaph to our dear departed Princess :—

Summers three times seven and one
She had told; alas, too soon
After so short a time of breath,
To dwell with darkness and with death:
Yet had the number of her days
Been as complete as was her praise,
Nature and fate had had no strife
In giving limit to her life.
Her high birth and her graces sweet
Quickly found a lover meet:
At their invoking Hymen came,
But with a scarce well-lighted flame;
And in his garland as he stood,
Ye might discern a cypress bud.
With eager hope the matron rose
To call Lucina to her throes.
But death by sad mischance or blame
Unheeded for Lucina came;
And with remorseless cruelty,
Spoil'd at once both fruit and tree.

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The hapless babe before his birth
Had burial yet not laid in earth;
And the languish'd mother's womb
Was not long a living tomb.
Gentle Princess, may thy grave
Peace and quiet ever have:
After this thy travail sore,
Sweet rest seize thee evermore,
That to give the world increase,
Shortened hath thy own life's lease;
Here besides thee sorrowing
That thy royal house doth bring,
These be tears of perfect woe,
Wept by all you leave below *.

---

* The following Latin Epigram which is to be found in an old Poet of Scotland, bears a strong resemblance to the late melancholy event:

Magdalena Valesiæ, Reginæ Scotorum
16 ætatis anno extincte

Regia eram conjux, et regiæ filia neptis
Regia, spe et votis regia mater eram
Sed ne transgrederer mortalis culmen honoris
Invida mors hic me condidit ante diem.

TRANSLATION.

Magdalena Valesia, Queen of the Scots,
Who died in the 16th year of her age.

Say who can boast, in all the royal line,
Such high descent, such royal claim as mine?
A Royal Bride with courtly joys beguil'd,
A Royal Father on my nuptials smil'd,
A Royal Grandsire of exalted worth,
Great in his virtues, noble in his birth;
Warm expectation, and angelic hope
Gave my fond soul, my ardent wishes scope;

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The grief of the illustrious mourner at Claremont had subsided into that kind of settled melancholy, which is generally the consequence of severe mental sufferings. He appeared in many respects to be absent to every thing, except such objects as recalled to his memory his departed Consort. The most inconsiderable articles, once possessed by the lamented Princess, were endeared to him by the fondest recollections. Hence the bonnet and the cloak which she wore in her last pedestrian excursion with him were kept constantly before his eyes. They were hung by her hand upon a screen in the sitting parlour, and there they remained for a considerable time; nor would the Prince allow them to be removed, nor any person whatever to touch them. Her Royal Highness's watch also long continued on the mantle-piece in precisely the same situation in which she herself placed it *.

A Royal Mother, soon to stand confest,
Maternal fondness glowing in my breast.
But ah!—relentless death, that envious foe,
Lest I this pinnacle of joy should know,
Snatch'd me in youth's, in beauty's bloom away,
Crushing the fondest hope of that expected day.

* Of anagrams it cannot be necessary to speak seriously; but it may be as well to observe by the way, that the learned Camden, who has left us a treatise on the subject, defines an anagram to be the dissolution of a name, by a transposition of the letters composing it, so as to form some perfect sense applicable to the person named; and he gives several examples, some of which are certainly very extraordinary. That which has been

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The Royal Family, and the particular friends of his Serene Highness united their efforts to abstract him from the contemplation of these melancholy objects of his departed happiness, and a temporary retirement from Claremont was resolved upon. That the salubrious qualities of the sea air might be conducive to the restoration of the injured health of his Serene Highness, cannot be questioned; but with the remembrance of his irreparable loss weighing heavily upon his mind, a more appropriate place than Weymouth might have been chosen, at which, so many mementos of her whom he had lost would momentarily present themselves to revive those painful emotions, which a total absence of sorrowful reminiscences might in a certain degree have alleviated. It may be urged on the other hand, that with the exception of Brighton, Weymouth is the only place which could offer a royal residence to his Serene Highness; but as he afterwards rejected that residence, and chose that of Lady C. Damer, at Came, in the immediate vicinity of Weymouth, another convenient residence might have been

formed of the words, HORATIO NELSON, "*Honor est a Nilo*," is familiar to every one. It may therefore be considered by some as a singular coincidence, that the words PRINCESS CHARLOTTE AUGUSTA OF WALES may be transposed as follows, omitting only the letters, P. C., which as they stand for PRINCESS CHARLOTTE, may, with propriety, be placed at the head, thus:—

P. C.

HER AUGUST RACE IS LOST;

O FATAL NEWS!

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selected on a different part of the coast, unattended with those afflicting associations which the vicinity of Weymouth must present to the illustrious widower. Melancholy extracts its food and is kept alive by objects which, in the eye of apathy or indifference, possess no intrinsic value; but which by the sorrowing heart are doated on, with the affection of the miser for his secret hoard.

Scarcely, however, had the mind of his Royal Highness * Prince Leopold began to recover from the oppressive weight of its affliction, than a lamentable event occurred, which not only retarded his recovery, but set the tongues of calumny again agog, and positive guilt was immediately attached to the unfortunate suicide. The afflicting circumstance of the Princess Charlotte's decease had excited the particular attention of the members of the medical profession, and especially of those who peculiarly devote themselves to the obstetrical department. By many carping individuals, error upon error was discovered in the management of her Royal Highness during the period of her labour, and to those errors only was her decease, in *their* opinion, to be attributed. A *Jesse Foot* attempted to *write* himself into notice by discovering some of those errors, and by loudly calling upon Par-

* According to a notice in the London Gazette, the Prince Regent has been pleased to direct, that Prince Leopold should in future assume the title of Royal Highness.

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liament to institute an immediate inquiry into the conduct of the medical attendants of her Royal Highness.—The Editors of the Gazette of Health heaped their unworthy animadversions upon the head of men, with whom, in point of professional ability they stand in the proportion of the light of a candle to the effulgence of the sun. The torrent of calumny, its source springing in impurity, rolls along its feculent flood, and in its blackening course spares not the upright, nor the innocent. We now feel all the delicacy, and all the genuine goodness of heart, which prompted the letters of the Prince Regent and Prince Leopold to Sir Richard Croft. If any thing could have consoled him and strengthened his mind against the unfeeling attacks of his adversaries, it would have been these proofs of royal kindness and condescension. An excess of delicate feeling, a susceptibility to painful regret, an extreme anxiousness in respect to the proper discharge of professional duty;—when such sentiments as these grow too painful for the wounded spirit to bear, and rise into momentary madness, it is difficult to conceive a case more strongly appealing to our sympathy and sorrow. The great leading cause of Sir Richard's melancholy state of mind is obvious. Under this experienced professor's hands it had pleased Providence that the hope of the nation should be suddenly extinguished; and, as in a professional practice embracing so wide a cir-

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state of insanity. The verdict returned was, "Died by his own act, being at the time he committed it in a state of mental derangement*."

The attentions of his friends, and the reflections of conscious integrity, would have eventually restored peace to Sir Richard's bosom, but to his mental trials was unfortunately added bodily fatigue; and after some nights' want of rest, and in the midst of another painful trial of his feelings, for the state of a patient whose life was in his hands, he seems, between sleeping and waking, to have been visited with momentary phrensy, the sad effects of which cannot be recorded without emotions of the deepest sympathy. It must be evident to every feeling mind, that even the natural death of the individual who had attended upon his beloved consort in the most awful period of her life, would have given considerable pain to the heart of Prince Leopold;—but that he should

* Without impugning the justness of the verdict, which is the only one which could have been given upon the evidence adduced, an important question naturally arises, and which can only be answered by the gentlemen who gave that evidence; which is, that, as according to their deposition, strong symptoms of insanity had exhibited themselves in the deceased for some time previously to the commission of the fatal act, why he was permitted by those friends to follow the duties of a profession, to which so heavy a responsibility is attached, and for the performance of which, the utmost presence and sanity of mind are necessary?

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fall by his own hands in a fit of mental derangement, occasioned by the acuteness of his feelings at a loss, ordained by Heaven, and not to be prevented by human power or skill, must indeed have been sufficiently harrowing to open afresh every wound of his too susceptible heart, which the lenient hand of time had begun to heal. The hours of his bitterest sorrow rose again upon his memory, and the past, with its dreaded accumulation of woes, poisoned the fleeting happiness of the present.

In the history of his country, the thanks of the Royal Parent and the Husband for his services will be recorded—with human transactions his course is finished—and in the full spirit of Christian charity let us hope, that his last act on earth has been forgiven by his merciful Creator.

Another afflicting circumstance, of a private nature, resulting from the sudden demise of the Princess Charlotte, was the death of the Countess of Albemarle, one of the earliest friends of her Royal Highness, and to whom she addressed the letter inserted in these Memoirs, page 34.

The accouchement of the Countess was expected about the same time as that of the Princess Charlotte, and some pleasant and jocose observations often passed between the two friends upon the occasion. The melancholy intelligence of the death of the Princess Charlotte no sooner reached the ears of the Countess, than a pre-

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mature labor came on, which ended in her dissolution.

To perpetuate the memory, and with it the virtues of the Princess Charlotte, a subscription was opened towards defraying the expenses of erecting a Cenotaph; and that the subscription might embrace all classes of persons, it was resolved, that no individual subscription should exceed a guinea, and the smallest sum be received. The Duchess of York patronised the plan, it having been originally intended that the subscription should be confined to the female part of the community; but some very strong objections to that plan having been urged, it was relinquished; and in a very short time, a sum far more than adequate to perform the original undertaking was collected. The Cenotaph will be raised on some public spot, (subject to the approbation of her Royal Highness the Duchess of York,) under the direction of the Committee; and will consist of a temple of the purest architecture, containing a statue of the late Princess, in Parian marble, with a surrounding monumental group. The whole will be under the direction of Mr. Matthew Wyatt.

To the leading motives, and the principles from which the erection of a Cenotaph originated, not a dissentient voice can be raised; but were it possible to consult the wishes of that now-sainted being, to whose memory it is to be erected, we

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are certain, that it would be her wish, that the remembrance of her virtues should be her monument alone; and that an asylum for the orphan—a school for the ignorant—a refuge for the destitute—an hospital for the sick—or a house for the industrious, would, to her heart, be more congenial, than the proudest monument which human ingenuity could erect. We still hope, that the surplus of the money will be applied to the foundation of a charitable institution, the effects of which may be seen in our posterity, when the columns of the Cenotaph are mouldered into dust.

The death of the Princess Charlotte is not one of the passing events of the day, it grows hourly upon the hearts of the community. Time, which effaces common griefs, often adds strength to powerful emotions, and renders them more fixed and painful. The object, however, which we lament most tenderly, is not always that, the loss of which inflicts upon us the most durable sorrow, since reason sometimes heals the wounded affections, by enabling us to calculate and measure more justly the value of the being whom we deplore. But such is not the influence of reason or reflection on the minds of the people of England at this moment. Those who feel most acutely on the present occasion, are they who think most deeply upon the excellence of what we have lost, and on the probable consequences of this great public calamity to the highest interests of the nation. Among the many points of view under which it

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has been our pride and study to contemplate the Princess Charlotte, and to point her out to the admiration of the people of England, we have delighted to speak of her character in domestic life. In that capacity she highly merits to be held up as a pattern to succeeding generations; and in a school endowed under her name, the exercise of the domestic virtues might be particularly inculcated. The dissolute manners of some among the upper classes in this country require no ordinary antidote to their corrupting force; the law, though armed with peculiar terrors, is evaded by artful vice, or defied by audacious infamy. Our unspotted Princess, in the lovely purity of her conjugal and maternal character, and in the splendor and pre-eminence of her constitutional throne, would, with the partner of her virtuous affections, have herself supplied the defects of law, and reclaimed the licentiousness of fashion. Every wife would have gazed upon her as a bright example of those duties whose performance rewards itself, and constitutes the chief blessing of society. The loss of such a model, in such an age, may be the subject of lamentation to our latest posterity.

The chasm in the lineal succession to the throne, occasioned by the demise of the Princess, is likely to be supplied by the attention which is at this period paid by the Government to the marriages of some of the branches of the Royal Family; one of which has already taken place between the Princess Elizabeth and a

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Prince of the House of Hesse Homburg; and the assent in Council has been officially given to a matrimonial alliance between his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and a Princess of the House of Saxe Meiningen, and the Duke of Cambridge with a Princess of the House of Hesse Cassel. The advanced period of life of the Royal Dukes renders it, however, improbable, that even should they be blessed with a male progeny, they will live to see their sons arrive at that age, at which, by the laws of the country, they could ascend the throne; and the country has therefore a cheerless prospect of a protracted Regency on the demise of the above-mentioned Dukes, which is always regarded with a jealous and suspicious eye, being often attended with intestine feuds and dissensions.

The dreadful calamity which has befallen the country in the decease of the Princess Charlotte, may not be felt in its fullest force by the present generation, but our posterity may have deeply to deplore the hour, which laid two generations of Princes in one hour in the tomb. Esteem, affection, pity for the illustrious object, who vanished like a spirit while the eye still gazed upon her form; disappointment of our own ardent hopes; solicitude for our future, though not immediate prospects; the combined operation of all these feelings, it is difficult, perhaps, to understand. The grief arising out of them is a graceful sentiment in the breast of any individual; when it pervades an entire nation, it becomes elevated and majestic.

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The English have now displayed an ardor of temperament, in its nature always noble, in its right and legitimate application irresistible; but if perverted or abused, not at all times safe. They have such an attachment to the virtues of the Royal House, as must shame and repudiate the charge of unprovoked or general disaffection. Let then Sovereigns cherish this ardent people; they are the impregnable defence of a constitutional and lawful throne. Let their enemies beware of such a people; for whatever course their passions take, their vigour will render them irresistible.

The fatal intelligence of the decease of the Princess Charlotte came over the nation like the breath of a pestilence, blasting in its course all joy, and comfort, and happiness. The tie of affection between the nation and the House of Brunswick, was the child to whom that unfortunate Princess was to have given birth—before him all passions would have been sacrificed—the asperity of political rancour would have been softened, and the abettors of riot and rebellion, would have found but few to rally round their standard. A nation, which has arrived at a high pitch of fame and glory, under any particular and long-established form of government, looks with trembling on those events which bear the slightest relation to the erection of a new dynasty; every link which is lost in the chain of legitimate succession, becomes a national calamity; and, for this reason, the life of the infant would have been some alleviation for the loss of the

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mother. He would, indeed, have been deprived of the tender care of an exemplary parent, whom he would only have known by the record of her virtues—but calamity is an excellent school for Princes, and they have not made the worst Sovereigns who have suffered the earliest or severest deprivations. He would have had a father too, of whom we do not know that we can speak more highly, than by saying, that the English nation esteems him, and would have wished (as far as he is known, and beyond this it would be sycophancy to praise him,) to trace his resemblance in his son.

Regarded as a private calamity, no event, in the wide range of those sorrows to which human nature is devoted, is so deeply calculated to bow down the heart with heaviness, and to impress upon the mind the absolute vanity of our frail existence. A young female, in the early bloom of life, and in the possession hitherto of uninterrupted health and high spirits, snatched from her family and her friends at that most interesting crisis, when, it might have been reasonably hoped, she was about to augment her own happiness, and to bestow a pledge that would guarantee, as it were, the permanence of the blessing upon herself and upon them, is surely, without contemplating any external adjunct, an affliction that transcends the ordinary miseries which flesh is heir to.

In the bright regions of everlasting day, now lives our sainted Princess, in the full enjoyment of the beatitude of Heaven. Her part on earth was

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short, but that part she acted well; she has passed the dreaded bourn, and in angel purity has ascended to her Redeemer's throne, to receive from him the crown of immortality. On the bosom of her Maker, her head reposes—freed from mortal sufferings: and from her celestial sphere, she has viewed the tears of an afflicted nation; of a dejected sire, and a disconsolate husband. To the latter, in the silent hours of their meditation, she has whispered consolation, and has instilled into their hearts the blessed hope of a re-union, when death shall have given up his sting, and the grave its victory.

Peace be to thy spirit,—for it was a lovely one!—The tears of the mourner have fallen on thy grave; the lamentations of the orphan and the widow, who received from thy hand their daily support, have been poured over thy tomb; the criminal, saved by thee from an ignominious death on earth, dares now to look above, for thou art there his intercessor with his offended Judge; the children, who by thy aid were taught to lisp their Maker's name, bless thee in thy Heaven;—and a mighty people will for ever hold thy memory sacred.—Peace be to thy spirit!

THE END.

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Sacred Memorial

OF THE

PRINCESS CHARLOTTE,

of Saxe Coburg Saalfeld, &c.

BY

ROBERT HUISH, ESQR

LONDON.

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Published by T KELLY, Paternoster Row, April 18, 1818.

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SACRED MEMORIAL

OF

HER LATE ROYAL HIGHNESS

Charlotte Augusta, Princess of Wales,

AND OF SAXE-COBURG SAALFELD;

BEING EXTRACTS FROM UPWARDS OF

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY SERMONS,

PREACHED ON THE DAY OF HER INTERMENT,

BY THE MOST EMINENT DIVINES

OF ALL DENOMINATIONS.

SELECTED BY ROBERT HUISH, Esq.

AND FORMING A

SUPPLEMENT to his "MEMOIRS of the PRINCESS CHARLOTTE," &c.

London:

PRINTED FOR THOMAS KELLY, 53, PATERNOSTER-ROW;

By W. Clowes, Northumberland-court, Strand.

1818.

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ADDRESS.

ASSOCIATED with the sentiment of a melancholy interest, the 19th of November, 1817, will be long remembered by Britain. Her historians will tell to future ages, that on the evening of that eventful day, and amid the tears of an afflicted nation, were entombed, along with those of her infant son, the remains of the Princess Charlotte of Wales.

The calculation of its effects, individually speaking, may be rationally formed, but its general effects on the nation at large will continue to display themselves as long as the love and practice of the Christian virtues are inculcated and encouraged. If the history of the country be examined, no precedent can be found, that on one day the people of the land were universally "knolled to church with holy bells,"—from no express command of God—from no particular ordinance of his holy religion—from no injunction of human authority—but by their own spontaneous desire and agreement, to testify their pious sorrow for the loss which the country has sustained; their resignation to the will of Heaven who has inflicted it; and to join in prayer that he would here suspend his judgments, and avert from us those distractions, which the uncancelled sins of the country might yet draw down upon us;—and let us sincerely hope, that the disposition which then prompted us to supplicate unanimity and concord from a God of peace, may so

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continue, and be so strengthened among us, as to produce effectively those desirable blessings.

The clergy, with the most commendable zeal, seized and endeavoured to convert the melancholy occasion into the means of good to their fellow-creatures by their exhortations, by the inculcation of religious truths, and by displaying, to the benefit of the rising generation in the character of our lamented Princess, an epitome of all the virtues that could adorn the woman, or the Christian. That the seeds which were thus sown in righteousness should not be lost to the present generation, and that their fruits should descend to our latest posterity, this SACRED MEMORIAL will be the never-failing instrument. In it the mourner will find consolation under his affliction,—the Christian under the visitation of his Maker, and the youth and the aged will discover that happiness is only to be found in the paths of religion and of virtue. The former, by having so bright an example of human excellence continually before him, will be deterred from entering upon a career of vice, and the latter will behold in a well-spent life, the cheering prospect of obtaining that crown of glory which never fadeth.

It may be fit to observe, that the personal character, and the domestic virtues of the amiable and beloved object of our regard, seemed to justify that universal feeling of regret which has been experienced from one end of the country to the other, as well in the palace of the prince as in the habitation of the subject. That she was religious, in the sober and rational understanding of the term,—that she had learned the heavenly rule of "*setting her affec-*

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tion on things above,"—her conduct on a trying occasion will sufficiently manifest. "A woman," saith our meek and compassionate Redeemer, "when she is in travail, hath sorrow, because her hour is come." Her hour came; and truly this illustrious daughter of woman knew this sorrow, for never was sorrow like unto that wherewith it pleased the Lord to try her patient and resigned spirit, through the protracted period of her travail. She talked of her portion of sorrow, but where was her portion of joy? The powers of remembrance were indeed left to her, but where was their energy? When called upon to do their work, did they support and re-animate exhausted nature by the assurance, so joyous to the parent's heart to hear, that "a man is born into the world, that the child liveth?"——No!—witness here the constancy of the saint! Behold the triumph of religion!—she lived to know that her offspring was dead, and died herself, exclaiming "Not my will, but thine be done."

To our children, and our children's children, the character of this illustrious and virtuous Female should be handed down, as the brightest pattern of moral excellence, of conjugal affection, and of strict conformity to the dictates of her God. Her spotless and angelic soul was suddenly called into the presence of its Creator; and may the bright example which she has left behind her be an inducement to her survivors to tread in the same path; that their sun may set like hers, and the darkness of the tomb be irradiated by the splendour of their virtues!

Awful indeed is the lesson which the event recorded on this melancholy occasion will read to the

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people of the earth. It teaches, it demonstrates the uncertainty of life—of all earthly happiness, the vanity and mockery of the highest of all human expectation. To the peasant as well as the prince, to men in all the ranks of life, and passing through every gradation in society, it gives, as from a lofty watch-tower, the solemn note of warning.

We cannot, in fine, contemplate the event, which in one day clad the British nation in mourning, without regarding it as a link in that vast chain by which thrones, and kingdoms, and nations, are encircled and limited and bound. Nor, when we dwell upon it, can we presume to penetrate its design, nor its consequences. These are with God. It is not for man to touch the sacred veil of mystery. Whether the desire of our eyes, the nation's hope, the heiress to its throne, has been taken away by a stroke, in *judgment* to us, or mercy, it is not for us to determine. What may be the issue of things, which shall arise from this dispensation of Providence is concealed from our view within the womb of time, and the counsel of the Most High. Let the voice of Religion be heard amidst the cries of grief and sorrow; let her light, her truth, her promises, dispel our doubts and fears, and fix our confidence on God;—his ways are unsearchable, his judgments a great deep. But mercy and truth go before his face.—Our times and those of succeeding generations are in his hands.

His will be done.

AMEN.

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A

SACRED MEMORIAL,

&c. &c.

EXTRACT

FROM THE

Sermon of George Henry Law, Lord Bishop of Chester, preached at the Cathedral Church of Chester.

Job, chap. 1, v. 21.

"The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord."

ONE of the first and surest foundations of every good principle and habit, is a constant sense of the superintending providence of the Almighty. This sentiment or feeling lies at the very root of all religion. It should therefore be the medium through which every incident is viewed; should be mixed with, and pervade all, our thoughts and prayers. Thus shall we learn to see the Deity in every thing, and seeing, must adore the wisdom and benevolence of all his works.

Instances, therefore, of adversity, of affliction, or death, as they tend peculiarly to generate this christian frame of mind, can never be contemplated without their use. They awaken us from that fatal slumber into which ease and affluence are too apt to lull us: they bring us to a sense of our duty; they better prepare us to meet our Lord and our Redeemer.

Sorrow is the nurse of wisdom. Every pious meditation, and every good disposition, are cherished and matured in the house of mourning. It is there we are taught to feel, that we are men and brethren: it is there we learn to commune with ourselves, and to retire within: it is there that we throw off the debasing clogs of mortality, and more sensibly aspire unto those blessed regions, where peace and happiness for ever dwell.

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The contemplation of death also, cannot but impress us with a conviction of the uncertain and perishable nature of all things here below; cannot but remind us of that land of darkness to which we are all so evidently tending. Pass but a few years more, and this assembled crowd will be—every one of them—consigned to the grave, out of sight, and out of remembrance. The sun, indeed, will rise and set, but not to us. The tides will ebb and flow, the laws of nature will have their course, the earth will still give her increase, and the business of the world go on; but we shall be removed from this scene, shall have no share in what is passing.

Such meditations naturally tend to fill the mind with a sense of our entire dependence upon God. There is nothing in reality so near and essential to us, and yet there is nothing for the most part so distant from our perceptions, as the Deity. He is about our path, and about our bed, in every breath we breathe, in every thought we think; and yet, for this very reason, and because he ought to be every thing, he too often becomes nothing to us—unseen, or disregarded. But in the season of adversity, when all other helps have failed, we then perceive the necessity of fleeing unto God. His providential care becomes first the object of faith, then of hope, and lastly of consolation.

These should be the feelings of every pious mind under all the trials and vicissitudes of life. He who makes affliction or death productive of their proper effects, will see in the arm of God a power overruling all things, and which can preserve him amidst all adversities. He becomes satisfied that the views of the Deity never ultimately terminate in misery, but that good is constantly educed out of evil.

1. The vanity of all earthly greatness, the uncertainty and the transitoriness of every terrestrial enjoyment, can in no other instance be so convincingly brought home to our mind and feelings. Who now can trust in any thing of this world? Who now can build his hopes upon the morrow? Who but must perceive, that youth, and health, and riches, are not, for an in-

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stant, to be depended upon?—That the paths of grandeur lead but to the grave. For what event could be farther from all expectation, than that which has placed in the silent tomb, the parent and her child? If human efforts, if human prayers, could have averted the dart of death, we had not now been lamenting together over the common failure of our fondest wishes. The first lesson, therefore, which this appalling dispensation should suggest, is, a full conviction of our own helplessness, and a sense of our dependence upon God. We here behold the precariousness of the tenure of life, and the fleetingness of our abode upon earth.

So powerful is the hold which pleasure gains on our affections, so devoted our attachment to the interests and concerns of the world, that we see the young and strong borne to their tombs, we hear the last knell of departed life, without at all laying these things to heart, without holding ourselves the more prepared, to meet our God. But the recent calamitous affliction by which a nation has been visited, forces reflection upon all, compels the most unthinking to consider their latter end.

While, however, we thus behold the sovereignty of the Godhead, and perceive the weakness of our common nature, we should, at the same time, neither murmur nor despair. Every thing is ordained or permitted by God for our ultimate happiness, or improvement. Little as we do see into the plans of Providence, and unable as we are to penetrate far into the veil of human events, yet do we see enough to convince us, that God never willingly, or but for their own good, punisheth the sons of men. Though the fate and issue of things be wisely hid in the womb of time, yet have we the sure word of Scripture and experience for believing, that the lot will at length fall into the lap of the righteous. We grieve not then, as they without hope. Though troubled we are not forsaken, though cast down we are not destroyed. Let us but act our parts well, and we may leave the ulterior disposal of every thing unto the Lord. The history of ages has demonstrated, that the

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prosperity of empires and individuals is for the most part proportionate to their virtue. Instead, therefore, of repining at any of the dispensations of the Almighty, much more instead of doubting that God is just and gracious, let us rather proceed with renewed confidence to the discharge of our respective duties, well knowing that our Redeemer liveth, and that He, without whose permission not even a sparrow falleth to the ground, will never forsake the children who deserve his care. Thus believing and acting, whether we live or die, we shall live or die unto the Lord: and thus, as at present, under this most mysterious visitation, we shall still trust in the God of our salvation, and say, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away—but blessed be the name of the Lord."

2. We see, in the second place, from that genuine expression of grief which has so generally manifested itself, the influence and the weight of moral worth and character in every situation and circumstance of life. She, of whom we have been deprived, had laid aside for a time the splendours of royalty, and was exemplifying the private virtues of a domestic station. By the culture and improvement of these, she was qualifying herself for that exalted office, which she would, as we fondly expected, one day (though late, we hoped) be called upon to discharge. In the shade of retirement, by the exercise of benevolence—a benevolence, the extent of which the tears of her neighbourhood have evinced, she was preparing herself for those high destinies, to which both her birth and merit appeared to be leading her. In consequence she was becoming daily, more and more, a nation's pride: and we vainly flattered ourselves with thinking, that the happiness which England had enjoyed, and the glories which it had achieved under female reigns, would all again have been displayed under her's. But what are the hopes of man! She is gone!! our wishes and expectations are shrouded with her in the grave. Still however, though dead, she speaketh. That consolation which she experienced herself upon learning the death of her infant, must, from the same hallowed source, be sought for and found by us. If we

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really loved her, when living, if we really mourn for her, when dead, let these her words be for ever embalmed in our memories, "It is the will of God."

Sermon by Henry G. White, M. A., preached at the Church of Allhallows, Barking.

Job, chap. ix. v. 12.

"Behold He taketh away!—Who can hinder Him?—Who will say unto Him,—What doest thou?

SO true is it, that we *come forth and are cut down like a flower—we flee also as a shadow, and continue not.*—The morning of our mortal life is irradiated with all the resplendence of youth, and health, and beauty; but ere our noon-day sun has fulfilled its meridian course, the clouds of darkness suddenly gather together, and shroud it in the premature night-fall of death. Such is the uncertain tenure on which we hold our natural life, and such is the certain doom under which it sooner or later sickens, decays, and dies,—a tenure so frail, that in the midst of life we are in death,—a doom so inevitable, that as *it is appointed unto all men once to die*, so all conditions, persons, and natures, after having been registered in the records of the living for their respective periods ordained to all by the Omniscient Creator of their being, must sink without distinction or exception into the silent mansions of the dead—*they go hence and are no more seen!*—These are the common truths of mortal infirmity, which our common experience every hour confirms; but when they are chronicled in our country's grief, as evidenced by some signally afflictive instance of general calamity, their important lessons are impressed upon our acknowledgment with a deeper interest of universal assent. Such is the impression with which they have this day led us hither into the House of our God. Before the Throne of Grace we have bent our heads in prayer, while our spirit is oppressed with mourning, and

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with the melancholy recollection of that precious gift of His Supreme Government, which we so lately possessed, but which we now have only the sad alternative of contemplating as passed from our sight, and lost to our earthly hope for ever. We confess how true such reflections are; and while the pious sentiment of the text restrains the murmur of our natural feeling, the involuntary sigh of national sorrow thus applies them:—'So rose to our delighted view in all the early charms of youth, so grew in all the bloom of health, and alas! so prematurely fell in all the beauty of the purest excellence, this cherished flower of Britain's pride, the illustrious and endeared object of a people's regrets—at one dread instant we have seen both the firstling Scion and the parent Plant cut down, and laid low in the dust of the earth,—but!—*The Lord hath taken away, who can hinder? Who will say unto Him, what doest Thou?*

Could youth and beauty—could rank and dignity—could personal goodness and christian piety—could filial tenderness and conjugal truth—could the graces of the Princess and the virtues of the woman—could these have pleaded exemption from that decree which has comprehended the whole race of mankind in one common lot of infirmity and death—then, we had still possessed the illustrious original of our well-deserved eulogies and unfeigned regrets. But, alas! who is proof against the mortal exposure of our nature to that appointment of the grave which sin has brought into the world, and which, in the inscrutable counsels of Him who gave us being, is one time or other fixed for all the children of men? Who shall trust in the possessions of Earth to evade the decree of Heaven? And what power, what skill, shall, prevent the execution of the command, when the Destroying Angel, invested with the fiat of God, shall be sent forth to fulfil it?

Yet, when the terror-striking blow is given, our faith should teach us to consider it as the act of Him who has a sovereign right over us, to dispose of us as He pleases, and to give or take away as His mercy and wisdom may decide. The loss

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that, as a nation, we have suffered, appears irreparable to our affliction, our hearts melt within us, and our hopes have failed. Still ought not our pious trust to yield to the unholy voice of murmur against the ordinances of the Most High. SHE, whom he has determined should not live to wear an earthly crown, has been removed from Earth to Heaven, that she may receive a crown of life. SHE, whom He has taken away from worldly dignity and splendor, has been borne by angels from her bed of sorrows to the bosom of her Redeemer, that she may repose in the eternal glories of His presence. SHE, who is now the theme of our praise joins in the Choral Hosannahs of the Saints that fill the pavilions of His majesty and greatness. SHE, who lives in our mournful recollection, lives for ever in the joy of her Lord.

We grieve for her mortal suffering; we deplore *the cutting off of her days* in the very beginning of her journey of life, when the promise of it held out the happiest expectations to her Royal Father, her truly estimable Prince, a delighted people, and an admiring world. Here, I admit, is abundant cause for lamentation, that asserts a claim upon our rational sympathies which religion itself does not forbid. The tears we shed are a grateful tribute of recollection which we owe to her endeared memory. Let the sacred burthen discharge itself—it is not incompatible with our Christian character—it finds its sanction in that tender evidence of affectionate condolence with which our blessed Redeemer wept over the grave of the departed Lazarus.—By His divine example we are taught, that Piety does not resist, but regulates our sorrows; and guides them in their course with the confidence and hope of Faith. Our mind, indeed, may be disquieted by the afflictive providences which God in His wisdom thinks fit we should endure; but as the smooth stream that is perturbed by some sudden storm or rushing flood, even in its own current, finds a passage for its swollen waters, so do our burthened thoughts discharge themselves by that flow of tears which He who formed the heart of man has mercifully devised for its relief,

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in order that its purer sensibilities might not be counteracted, but modified to His divine will. It is He, also, the same God, who, when the water-floods of affliction *have gone even over our soul*, calms the boisterous waves with the command of His power.—*Peace, be still!*—and with his paternal hand rescues us from the depths of despondency. When, therefore in those inflictions which human foresight cannot scan, He visits His creatures with dismay and fear, *he heareth the voice of our weeping; and although we walk in the midst of trouble, he will revive us, and his right hand shall save us.*

We are not, therefore, called upon to suppress the natural effusions of our sorrow, but to temper them with the essential principles of religious dependence upon the faithfulness of our God; so that we may receive the chastening of His will without impatience, which vainly increases its burthen by its fretful struggles against His dispensations. Submissive sorrow admits the invariable purpose of His mercy, and so blends our sufferings with the providence of His power; but impatience calls in question His right to dispose of the work of His hands, and sets at nought His sovereign authority over us. It mistrusts His goodness, and by its spirit of murmur renders ineffectual those gracious designs of good, which at the moment of our impotent irritation we do not perceive, but which He is constantly engaged in perfecting according to the counsels of His righteous judgment.

The illustrious individual whose death we now deplore, was the presumptive Heir to the Throne of these Realms; but the grandeur of worldly expectancy had not lifted her heart above the humble consciousness of her Christian obligations. It is becoming in us all to honor and revere the exalted station of those who are placed on such an eminence of personal dignity, but it is also fitting for those who are raised above their fellow-creatures, to establish their honorable greatness in the hearts of men, by that excellency of virtuous superiority which ennobles their claim upon our consideration; and which was the consciousness of her soul, and the rule of her life.

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Her education was such as became her splendid expectations, and enabled her to prepare herself for the full accomplishment of those high duties, to which she would have been called.—By the principles which she thus imbibed, her mind was strengthened in all its capacity of natural talent—and held forth the promise of a felicitous reign, whenever it might have pleased God that she should have succeeded to the government of an affectionate people.

By the influence of these principles, she guarded herself against all the impulses of that self-will, which, when obedience follows command, is too apt to implicate the judgment in error, and to surrender the more correct sentiments of the heart to the unrestrained control of the passions.

Her Marriage was that of her own choice—the object of her affections was worthy of the heart that pledged them to his happiness; and the Union was hailed by millions as contributing to her Country's joy—The short interval on which this happiness was suspended, marked her the affectionate partner of him, who now in more than widowed sadness deplores her loss; and proved her as capable as willing to adorn the conjugal character with the loveliest influence of the hallowed vow, that sealed and ratified the hope of Britain.—O what a promise was here, for the performance of all the maternal obligations, had the decree of God's inscrutable Will matured the early blossom into a fruitful accomplishment of this hope! She was in the flower of her age—but only lived to expand the beauty of this promise upon our view, and then was called away to mingle its fragrance with the incense of the Saints in Heaven!

A few hours more, and the sepulchre will close in upon that mortal form in which her virtues were embodied—when, in the language of the Prophet, she will have *entered the chambers of Death, and the doors be shut upon her, and she shall lie hidden for a little moment.*—Yet every tear we shed will be the herald of some excellency which she possessed,—for that form was clad in all the graces of woman-kind.—The disposition of her heart was ingenuous, undisguised, charitable,

compassionate, beneficent, conciliating, and kind.—Her mind was noble, unprejudiced, intelligent, and just.—Her comprehension prompt, her judgment penetrating, and sound; yet unmixed with self-sufficiency, and chastened by a wise consideration of public opinion. She not only understood her Religion, but practised it—She forgot not her God—She forgot not her duty—She forgot not herself.—And thus her example was impressive, and secured the respect and regard of all who contemplated it.—And is it such a Princess we have lost?—Is it such a hope that we have seen frustrated?—Is it such a blessing of which we have been deprived?—No terms of adulatory language can give force to our conviction of the moral and social truth of her character. The lip of flattery seeks not its reward in the dust of the tomb.—The faithful pen of the historian shall place her Character in his brightest page of Britain's Hope, while he records her loss in the saddest memorial of Britain's Grief; and in the justice of the Tribute shall reap a conscious satisfaction, as the sacred recompense of his melancholy task.

For us, we have not only to weep her early removal from the earthly sphere of that virtuous influence which the enticements of power and the vanities of folly could not vitiate, but to emulate the example which dignified her illustrious rank, and afforded a preceptive dictate of salutary admonition to the humblest witness of her worth.—As she was esteemed, honoured, and loved by us all, so let us seize the impression which that worth has produced, and make it the reference of our respective convictions of its instructive usefulness.

As inhabitants of the Country whose name she adorned, let us bear in mind that *righteousness exalteth a nation;* and let the other part of the consecrated sentiment induce us to check the self-sufficiency of our inconsideration—*sin is the reproach,* and must sooner or later lead to the punishment *of any people.*

As individuals, let us prepare ourselves by the cultivation of all the virtues of private life to follow her to that *better Country,* where, through the perfecting righteousness of her Saviour, she reigns with *Him* in blessedness and joy!

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Religion, my Brethren, cultivated in all its sublime truths, both in public and private life, can alone supply us with fortitude equal to sustain the visitations of our God, and to convert the afflictive correction which they are designed to produce, to the eventual benefit of our Country and ourselves.

Sermon preached by William Chaplin, at Bishops Stortford, Herts.

1 PETER, chap. i. v. 24.

"All the Glory of Man is as the Flower of Grass."

I HAVE no desire to pay adulation to the memory of the departed, or to give representations not strictly warranted by facts. But it does appear to me that on the present occasion we may say, (if ever the language might be used in reference to human affairs) Our glory hath faded away like the flower of grass.—Let us collect together and combine the different circumstances which contribute to render this a day of mourning, and to prostrate our feelings and our hopes under the mysterious stroke of a righteous Providence.

It is a *female* whose loss we mourn: one of the sex which is said to be the weaker of the two, but I doubt not is the best, and in many respects the glory of our species.——But we mourn to-day the loss of an *interesting and accomplished* female. One who is said to have been naturally gifted with high faculties; and whose means of cultivation were selected with judgment, and improved by herself with diligent and unwearied application. Our hemisphere then has lost an intellect, ardent, refined, and enlightened in an eminent degree; and this united to a heart reported to have been alike generous and amiable and kind.——Such, my brethren, were the endowments which have been suddenly eclipsed! And we have indeed reason to bewail the loss; for Providence had, as we thought, bestowed them not upon herself only, but upon her country, and for the benefit of mankind.

This interesting and accomplished female we further recollect, was in full expectation of speedily possessing all the de-

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lights and joys of *a Mother!* O! if the inhabitants of other worlds were permitted to know what passeth upon our earth, and if they were left to select one object in nature, which more than all others was adapted to engage their attention and interest their feelings, they surely would be most attracted by that moment, when a mother's sensations first begin to thrill round the female heart. What in the compass of human experience can be compared to this! And such was the moment which the inscrutable wisdom of Heaven chose for that awful event which we now deplore! It was then, when the heart was beating high with expectation and hope; when the world was going to assume a new aspect, and life to acquire double its former worth; when a rapid rise was taking place in all her feelings, and the overflowings of her joy seemed prepared to obliterate every pang, and to cast all the sorrows of nature into oblivion; it was then that the hand of Omnipotence spread itself over her, and depressed every rising hope, and threw darkness over the scene, and extinguished the lamp of life itself; leaving a nation in tears, and mankind to marvel at thy ways, Lord God Almighty! For "thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and "thy footsteps are not known."

Further. The interesting and accomplished female who has been removed under these affecting circumstances, was a Princess.—She was therefore apparently destined to become a leading character in the highest circles of society, and to occupy a large space in the public eye. Her removal from this elevated station has left a void, the sight of which we know not how to sustain. The qualifications which we believe she possessed, combined with the high peculiarities of her rank, render our loss in this respect unusually severe.

Sermon preached by Thomas Snow, at Cheltenham.

REVELATION, chap. i. v. 18. (Part of)

"I am he that liveth, and was dead: and, behold I am alive for evermore."

THE lesson of the *uncertainty of life*, and *its best prospects*, is read to us distinctly; I may say, it was never more

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loudly thundered in the ears of the inhabitants of Britain, than on the present occasion. It speaks so loudly that men *must* hear it, and so affectingly, that they must listen to it. By a strange absence of all reflection, no one seemed to expect the *possibility* of the event which we now deplore. Where were the prayers of the saints, either for the body's or the soul's health of her who ought to have been dear to every heart? The unexpectedness of the event has caused the shock to be more severely felt: and now our hope, as ministers of religion, is this, that she, who might have lived for the benefit of this nation, may yield it at least one benefit by her death—by reminding many, that, perhaps, before they are aware of it, they also must die: Thus might she prove a greater blessing to the people of England, by her death, than she would have done by a longer and more splendid reign than ever emblazoned the page of history.

Amongst other circumstances, the youth of the departed Princess should be remembered. God, indeed, shews us the vanity of the present state; when, even in old age, persons are removed, after having reached their fourscore years. In such instances, we are taught what a speck of being is the life of man, even in its utmost extent; and how soon our existence in this world will be terminated, even though it be protracted to its farthest limit. But when death, seizing as it were, by violence, the sickle from the delaying hand of Time, cuts down a person in the bloom or in the prime of life, who stands in some near and dear relation to ourselves, then is the uncertainty of life preached to us in the most affecting and striking manner. The eldest daughter of our land, who should have been as the mother of our succeeding generation, and whom we had expected to be the parent of a line of kings, possessed of qualifications for an useful life, and for domestic happiness; entitled to the esteem of millions, is cut off in the very bloom of youth, preaching to us in the most solemn and awful accents, the uncertainty of this life, and all its brightest prospects. Our ears receive the lesson under the present circum-

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stance; not in soft whispers, not in a common voice, but as in a peal of thunder, rattling through the whole kingdom. Now we hear the cry sounding as it were in an overwhelming and irresistible energy, "All flesh is grass, and the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field; the grass withereth, the flower fadeth, because the Spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it."

Extract of a Sermon preached at Carlow Church, by the Rev. Richard Frizell, Minister of Ilfracombe, in Devon.

St. John, chap. xi. v. 35.
"Jesus wept."

IF the Lord of life and glory, who had power over death and the grave, wept on approaching the tomb of a departed disciple, may it not be permitted to weak and feeble man to lament with the bitterness of sorrow—with all the anguish, but not with the despair of grief, on an occasion which furnishes more real matter to excite the sensibilities of our nature—more real cause of regret—more present and more permanent calamity and woe, than any other event in the history of this, or perhaps any other civilized nation? Jesus wept—yes, tender and benevolent author of our salvation; thou, whom none of the ills or misfortunes, or ingratitude of a wicked world, could move to express a tittle of impatient feeling, who borest with calm resignation an ignominious death; thyself amidst the insults of ferocious, persecuting, and murderous enemies; who wouldst not suffer the daughters of Jerusalem to weep for thee, but for themselves; whose deepest sorrows were occasioned by our sins; wert struck with compassion and moved to tears on beholding a pious sister lamenting the fate of a beloved brother; and with the same benign and God-like feeling, didst stop the bier, and restore to life the widow's son. Here it is not a beloved brother, or an only son, the last hope of a single family—but it is a nation's hope; a father, a prince, a crown, and a people, have lost their all!—where all that

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was innocent in youth, lovely and amiable in woman, tender and attached in a wife, affectionate and devoted in a child; retired and almost solitary in private life, that she might better study the duties of her public station, cultivating with assiduous care, in the nursery of domestic virtue, the mind and the talents to which the destinies of this great empire were to be committed (and how often have the destinies of the world depended on ours); when such an object as this is snatched away at the moment she was bringing, it was hoped, a future Sovereign to the land, and the helpless form lies embalmed in the lifeless bosom, which but a short fortnight ago, enjoyed life, and with that life the sweetest hope, the highest rank, and the dearest love; a father's pride, a nation's hope, and a husband's treasure;—when all this is gone, we may be allowed to weep, when under circumstances, infinitely less afflictive, he who could weep at little else than our sins—even Jesus wept.

Sermon by the Rev. Bryant Burgess, A. M., preached at the Church of St. Mary-le-bone.

Heb. chap. xiii. v. 14.

"For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come."

IF the imagination were to set herself to deck an image of all that is splendid, and great, and lovely, and enviable, in human life, she could scarcely embody a more perfect image to our view, than that which has just vanished away from every eye for ever. At the summit of all that is magnificent in rank! Flushed with all that is luxuriant in health! Animated with the liveliest vigour of youth! Adorned with nature's choicest charms! The heiress to an *unrivalled* throne! Enjoying a rich fruition of all that love and domestic life can consummate!—Merciful God! what a contrast does she now present! *bewailed* by every tongue,—the topic of universal *pity*,—embittering with unquenchable poignancy the heart she delighted to love and

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cheer; the object of funereal pageantry; joint tenant with the infant of her hopes of the lonely sepulchre of mortality! Oh ye that are in love with life, transported with pleasure, inflated by renown, or giddy with vanity,—oh look on your shrouded Princess, and read a lesson that may wean your hearts for ever from dotage on any charms within the realms of time! Let us one and all, my brethren, strive to bosom ever this actuating impression, that *the fashion of this world passeth away;* that *the things which are seen are temporal,* perhaps, will be momentary; that the *things which are not seen are eternal,* perhaps, *are at hand.* There is not a deadlier foe amongst all the enemies of our souls than worldly-mindedness, than a fond acquiescence in this material scene, an undue regard for the vanities of time and sense. Nor is there a more appropriate lesson contained in the dispensation which we deplore, than that which it levels at all such inordinate affection.—May God give us grace, my brethren, to bear this lesson retentively on our minds for ever; that we may learn to sit loose to all that has this life alone for its dependence, and to fasten our desires on those things which have God and Heaven for their basis. Let us acquire a holy *distaste* for treasures, thus treacherous in possession, thus liable to mock our fond caress; and imbibe a keener desire, a sincerer longing for the *unsearchable riches of Christ,* which are as durable as the throne of God.

A Sermon by the Rev. James Rudge, of Limehouse.

ISAIAH, chap. XXVI. v. 9.

"When thy judgments are in the Earth, the inhabitants of the World will learn Righteousness."

ON such a subject, it is very meet, and perhaps my bounden duty, that I should say a few words; but I must necessarily be brief, for thereby I shall best consult the state of my own mind, and the feelings of my hearers.

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I believe I shall be borne out in the assertion by those who are best read in the history of our country, that at no period did ever any event happen, which caused such universal regret, or which, under all its oppressive circumstances, was pregnant with such important results. Without entering, however, into calculations, which fall more within the department of the Statesman, than within the province of the Minister of religion, it may be fit only to observe, that the personal character, and the domestic virtues of the amiable and beloved object of our regard, seemed to justify that universal feeling of regret, which has been experienced from one end of the country to the other, as well in the palace of the prince, as in the habitation of the subject. I have always thought, that, constituted as the British empire is, both from the nature of its situation, and the form of its government, it is a great blessing to our country, when the character of the individual to whom the sovereign authority is delegated, possesses those virtues, which grace, embellish, and dignify domestic life. Had such been the will of God, that individual, whose death we now deplore, would, in the course of time, as the presumptive heir of the throne, have been invested with the first authority of the state; and, how well the laws would have been administered, and the rule of authority been attempered with the exercise of mercy, let the numerous virtues of domestic life which shone out so conspicuously, and gave to the nation the fondest and brightest hopes of future glory and prosperity under her mild and maternal sway, attest. In this, we cannot but trace a faithful likeness between the conduct of our beloved Princess and that of our good and afflicted King, after whose virtues she seems to have successfully copied; and there can be no doubt, had it been the dispensation of God to have lengthened out her days, that, while she inherited the virtues of her grandsire, she would have received the same tokens of loyalty and affection with which we now even exult at the name, and nail the remembrance of our beloved and venerable Sovereign. Apart from other considerations which, at this

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time, press upon the mind, and weigh down the spirits of all of us, we cannot but consider, that this calamitous stroke of Almighty God has broken up one of the most delightful scenes of domestic felicity which ever graced a public station, or was witnessed in private life.

"But it was not to the private circle, or the domestic hearth only, that the virtues of the much-loved Princess were confined. A character which furnished a pattern of all that was good and lovely to look upon in the endearing relation of a wife, tenderly and devotedly attached to the illustrious and amiable object of her own choice and affections, was complete in other parts. It has been tried in the balance, and found nothing wanting. It is in my own power to relate, that, acting from the best and most exalted motives, she felt for the woes and wretchedness of the distressed; and wherever a well-authenticated case of human suffering was submitted to her, the ear was as open to hear as the heart was ready to relieve it. And were there no impropriety in it, I might mention, that on one occasion, an application was made by myself to this feeling and inestimable Princess, in behalf of a fellow-creature, upon whom one of the heaviest afflictions had fallen; and nothing could equal or exceed the sweetness and affability with which my representation was heard, and the grace and kindness with which my petition was granted! And this, I have reason to believe, was one only of many instances in which her uncommon benevolence of heart was displayed. It is right that, where one case even can be substantiated, it should be mentioned, though it may tend, in one sense, to imbitter our regrets, and make us all exclaim, under the deep and melancholy impression thereof, "Oh! England! how incalculably great is thy loss!" But it should be recorded, and I have done it with inexpressible pleasure, because, while it is but due to the *dead*, it is satisfactory to the *living*, who are, happily, enthusiastic in her praises, and cherish with the most reverential feelings, the recollection of her virtues!

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Sermon of Dr. Thomas Chalmers, of Glasgow.

ISAIAH, chap. xxvi. v. 9.

"For when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness."

NOW let me apply this remark to the mutual state of sentiment which obtains between the different orders of the community. Amongst the rich, there is apt at times to rankle an injurious and unworthy impression of the poor—and just because these poor stand at a distance from them—just because they come not into contact with that which would draw them out in courteousness to their persons, and in benevolent attentions to their families. Amongst the poor, on the other hand, there is often a disdainful suspicion of the wealthy, as if they were actuated by a proud indifference to them and to their concerns; and as if they were placed away from them at so distant and lofty an elevation as not to require the exercise of any of those cordialities, which are ever sure to spring in the bosom of man to man, when they come to know each other, and to have the actual sight of each other. But, let any accident place an individual of the higher before the eyes of the lower order, on the ground of their common humanity—let the latter be made to see that the former are akin to themselves in all the sufferings and in all the sensibilities of our common inheritance—let, for example, the greatest chieftain of the territory die, and the report of his weeping children, or of his distracted widow, be sent through the neighbourhood—or, let an infant of his family be in suffering, and the mothers of the humble vicinity be run to for counsel and assistance—or, in any other way, let the rich, instead of being viewed by their inferiors through the dim and distant medium of that fancied interval which separates the ranks of society, be seen as heirs of the same frailty, and as dependent on the same sympathies with themselves—and, at that moment, all the floodgates of honest sympathy will be opened—and the lowest ser-

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vants of the establishment will join in the cry of distress which has come upon their family—and the neighbouring cottagers, to share in their grief, have only to recognise them as the partakers of one nature, and to perceive an assimilation of feelings and of circumstances between them.

"Now if, through an accidental opening, the public should be favoured with a domestic exhibition—if, by some overpowering visitation of Providence upon an illustrious family, the members of it should come to be recognised as the partakers of one common humanity with ourselves—if, instead of beholding them in their gorgeousness as princes, we look to them in the natural evolution of their sensibilities as men—if the stately palace should be turned into a house of mourning—in one word, if death should do what he has already done,—he has met the Princess of England in the prime and promise of her days, and as she was moving onward on her march to a hereditary throne, he has laid her at his feet! Ah! my brethren, when the imagination dwells on that bed where the remains of departed youth and departed infancy are lying—when, instead of crowns and canopies of grandeur, it looks to the forlorn husband, and the weeping father, and the human feelings which agitate their bosom, and the human tears which flow down their cheeks, and all such symptoms of deep affliction as bespeak the workings of suffering and dejected nature—what ought to be, and what actually is, the feeling of the country at so sad an exhibition? It is just the feeling of the domestics and the labourers at Claremont. All is soft and tender as womanhood. Nor is there a peasant in our land, who is not touched to the very heart when he thinks of the unhappy stranger who is now spending his days in grief and his nights in sleeplessness—as he mourns alone in his darkened chamber, and refuses to be comforted—as he turns in vain for rest to his troubled feelings, and cannot find it—as he gazes on the memorials of an affection that blessed the brightest, happiest, shortest year of his existence—as he looks back on the endearments of the bygone months, and the

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thought that they have for ever fleeted away from him, turns all to agony—as he looks forward on the blighted prospect of this world's pilgrimage, and feels that all which bound him to existence, is now torn irretrievably away from him! There is not a British heart that does not feel to this interesting visitor, all the force and all the tenderness of a most affecting relationship; and, go where he may, will he ever be recognised and cherished as a much-loved member of the British family.

Would it not have been most desirable could the whole population of the city have been admitted to join in the solemn services of the day? Do you not think that they are precisely such services as would have spread a loyal and patriotic influence amongst them? Is it not experimentally the case, that, over the untimely grave of our fair Princess, the meanest of the people would have shed as warm and plentiful a tribute of honest sensibility as the most refined and delicate amongst us? And, I ask, is it not unfortunate, that, on the day of such an affecting, and, if I may so style it, such a national exercise, there should not have been twenty more churches with twenty more ministers to have contained the whole crowd of eager and interested listeners? A man of mere loyalty, without one other accomplishment, will, I am sure, participate in a regret so natural; but couple this regret with the principle, that the only way in which the loyalty of the people can effectually be maintained, is on the basis of their Christianity, and then the regret in question embraces an object still more general—and well were it for us, if, amid the insecurity of families, and the various fluctuations of fortune and of arrangement that are taking place in the highest walks of society, the country were led, by the judgment with which it has now been visited, to deepen the foundation of all its order and of all its interests, in the moral education of its people. Then, indeed, the text would have its literal fulfilment. When the judgments of God are in the earth, the rulers of the world would lead the inhabitants thereof to learn righteousness.

In our own city, much in this respect remains to be accom-

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plished; and I speak of the great mass of our city and suburb population, when I say, that through the week they lie open to every rude and random exposure—and when Sabbath comes, no solemn appeal to the conscience, no stirring recollections of the past, no urgent calls to resolve against the temptations of the future, come along with it. It is undeniable, that within the compass of a few square miles, the daily walk of the vast majority of our people is beset with a thousand contaminations; and whether it be on the way to the market, or on the way to the work-shop, or on the way to the crowded manufactory, or on the way to any one resort of industry that you choose to condescend upon, or on the way to the evening home, where the labours of a virtuous day should be closed by the holy thankfulness of a pious and affectionate family; be it in passing from one place to another, or be it amid all the throng of sedentary occupations; there is not one day of the six, and not one hour of one of these days, when frail and unsheltered man is not plied by the many allurements of a world lying in wickedness—when evil communications are not assailing him with their corruptions—when the full tide of example does not bear down upon his purposes, and threaten to sweep all his purity and all his principle away from him. And when the seventh day comes, where, I would ask, are the efficient securities that ought to be provided against all those inundations of profligacy which rage without control through the week, and spread such a desolating influence among the morals of the existing generation?—Oh! tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon—this seventh day, on which it would require a whole army of labourers to give every energy which belongs to them, to the plenteous harvest of so mighty a population, witnesses more than one half of the people precluded from attending the house of God, and wandering every man after the counsel of his own heart, and in the sight of his own eyes—on this day, the ear of heaven is assailed with a more audacious cry of rebellion than on any other, and the open door of invitation plies with its welcome, the hundreds and the thousands who

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have found their habitual way to the haunts of depravity. And is there no room, then, to wish for twenty more churches, and twenty more ministers—for men of zeal and of strength, who might go forth among these wanderers, and compel them to come in—for men of holy fervour, who might set the terrors of hell and the free offer of salvation before them—for men of affection, who might visit the sick, and the dying, and the afflicted, and cause the irresistible influence of kindness to circulate at large among their families—for men, who, while they fastened their most intense aim on the great object of preparing sinners for eternity, would scatter along the path of their exertions all the blessings of order, and contentment, and sobriety; and at length make it manifest as day, that the righteousness of the people is the only effectual antidote to a country's ruin—the only path to a country's glory?

Oh! how it tends to quiet the agitations of every earthly interest and earthly passion, when Death steps forward and demonstrates the littleness of them all—when he stamps a character of such affecting insignificance on all that we are contending for—when, as if to make known the greatness of his power in the sight of a whole country, he stalks in ghastly triumph over the might and the grandeur of its most august family, and singling out that member of it on whom the dearest hopes and the gayest visions of the people were suspended, he, by one fatal and resistless blow, sends abroad the fame of his victory and his strength, throughout the wide extent of an afflicted nation! He has indeed put a cruel and impressive mockery on all the glories of mortality. A few days ago, all looked so full of life, and promise, and security—when we read of the bustle of the great preparation—and were told of the skill and the talent that were pressed into the service—and heard of the goodly attendance of the most eminent in the nation—and how officers of state, and the titled dignitaries of the land, where charioted in splendour to the scene of expectation, as to the joys of an approaching holiday—yes, and we were told too, that the bells of the sur-

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rounding villages were all in readiness for the merry peal of gratulation, and that the expectant metropolis of our empire, on tiptoe for the announcement of her future monarch, had her winged couriers of despatch to speed the welcome message to the ears of her citizens, and that from her an embassy of gladness was to travel over all the provinces of the land; and the country, forgetful of all that she had suffered, was at length to offer the spectacle of one wide and rejoicing jubilee. O Death! thou hast indeed chosen the time and the victim, for demonstrating the grim ascendency of thy power over all the hopes and fortunes of our species! Our blooming Princess, whom fancy had decked with the coronet of these realms, and under whose gentle sway all bade so *fair for* the good and the peace of our nation, has he placed upon her bier! And, as if to fill up the measure of his triumph, has he laid by her side, that babe, who, but for him, might have been the monarch of a future generation; and he has done that, which by no single achievement he could otherwise have accomplished—he has sent forth over the whole of our land, the gloom of such a bereavement as cannot be replaced by any living descendant of royalty—he has broken the direct succession of the monarchy of England—by one and the same disaster, has he wakened up the public anxieties of the country, and sent a pang as acute as that of the most woful domestic visitation, into the heart of each of its families.

Sermon by John Kello, preached at Bethnal Green.

Job, chap. xxxiv. v. 19, 20.

"For they all are the work of his hands. In a moment shall they die, and the people shall be troubled at midnight."

1. THE stroke of death is the occasion of trouble to individuals. Those in a more immediate and intimate connexion are particularly interested in and moved by it. It casts

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a damp over all remaining enjoyments, and excites those inward emotions which experience alone can conceive and the knowledge of which can be attained in none other way. The peace of families has often been destroyed; the domestic circle has suffered irreparable losses; and trouble, unparalleled in its nature, and destructive in its effects, has been occasioned by the ravages of death.

2. This applies to nations generally. When king Josiah died, we are told, (2 Chron. xxxv. 24,) "And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah." They lamented the breach that God had made. Yea, there was an ordinance in Israel for speaking of him in their lamentations, ver. 25. Good reason had they to be troubled, for it was an event that was followed by many awful judgments on them as a people.

The death of those who are in high and exalted stations, and are enabled to fill them with propriety and usefulness, is productive of the same effect. Their influence is lost—the expectations we had entertained from them are cut off—our hopes are blasted;—and unless we are enabled to make the Lord our refuge, unabated trouble must prevail—midnight darkness must come over us—and horror and dismay be its inseparable attendants.

IMPROVEMENT.

1. What a stain does this subject put on all worldly glory! Glittering as it is in the eyes of mortals, highly valued, and eagerly sought after by the carnal multitude, what is it? A vapour and an empty bubble. Death may destroy every towering hope, and in a moment plunge the most mighty monarch into a state of the greatest degradation and meanness. That alone is worthy of the choice, that alone is worthy the pursuit of an immortal soul, which can defy the ravages of death, and survive the corruption of the grave. Such are the spiritual honours, such the heavenly kingdom which are revealed in the gospel—secured by its promises—and only to be attained by an experience of its grace. Honours, these, which shall be the everlasting portion of every believer in Jesus, whether their place on earth be

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the most magnificent throne, or the meanest and most humble cottage—whether their character here be that of the most powerful monarch, or the most obscure peasant.

2. Learn, the misery that attaches to an earthly portion. Not only is such a portion vain; it has an unspeakable misery inseparably entailed. What will all the riches, all the honours of a present world avail us, when death shall make us its prey? Pose your souls with that striking address of our blessed Lord, in Mark viii. 36, 37. "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Worldly honours and greatness can afford no alleviation under the smallest temporal affliction. They are utterly insufficient to be a substitute for the deprivations which death makes in our comforts here. But should these be our only portion, with unspeakable misery must we be overwhelmed for ever hereafter. They will leave us at the most important period: and having chosen these in opposition to the favour of God, and an interest in him, we must be banished from the heavenly mansions, and have our lot with devils and damned spirits for ever. Make, then, an interest in the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the favour of God, through him, the object of your hearty and earnest pursuit. Plead with him for an experience of his grace, which alone can subdue your unbelief, and spiritualize your affections.

Begin this exercise *betimes*; you that are in early life, make it your serious concern to obtain it. You are dying creatures, and there is no age or situation in life secure from the attacks of death. Should it be your happiness to be found in Christ, a blessing shall attend you amidst all present changes; and death will introduce you into a state of inconceivable and everlasting happiness. Be concerned *early* to obtain this grace, lest *in wrath you be rejected for ever.*

3. What an unspeakable happiness and attainment is, a readiness for the Lord's will. This was the pursuit of Epaphras respecting the believing Colossians, as testified by the apostle

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Paul, (Col. iv. 12.)—" Always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God." The experience—the influence—and the establishment of grace, are included in this desire. Seek these from God. Seek them earnestly. Such a spiritual attainment fits for every event.

Lastly. What a privilege is it that we are permitted and encouraged to commit every concern to God! Our present national circumstances occasion many misgivings of heart. Our prospects are disappointed! and we exclaim, what will be the issue? Commend it to the Lord. He has appeared. His salvations, as a people, we have often experienced. He is still a God of infinite mercy and almighty power. His church is his peculiar care: this he will preserve amidst the tossings and changes of a present world: the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. This is his promise; and he will accomplish it.

Sermon by William Marsh, A. M., preached at Colchester.

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1 SAMUEL, chap. iii. v. 18.

" It is the Lord: let him do what seemeth him good."

WE calculate, and calculate, and know not the result. We say this will be our king, but he has no issue. We say that will be our Queen, but she has no heir. God can overrule it for good. Our beloved Princess may have been taken from overwhelming cares and " from the evil to come." Isaiah, chap. lvii. v. 1. The dependence of the nation also may be more simply fixed on himself, rather than on any creature. But still it must be regarded as a national calamity; it must be received as a chastisement from the Most High. We must also endeavour to profit by the event; and, thank God, we may profit by the example of the lamented individual herself, and that of her beloved consort.

Their union was one of mutual choice. *Their life* was a life

of retired habits, sharing enjoyments and occupations. The one was seldom seen without the other. The splendour of their rank served to render their happiness more conspicuous. Domestic bliss, seldom witnessed in courts, was well known at Claremont. Their life, did I say, it was the dawn of a *life of usefulness*. Though born presumptive heiress of a throne, she cheerfully condescended to enter the cottage of the poor. A patroness of education, she herself was a teacher. What an example to the nation! Let it be followed, and there shall be no uneducated child in the land. "*Have you no better bible than that, good woman?*" said this lovely Princess to a poor woman reading the Scriptures in very small print; "*Have you no better bible than that? then I will give you one!*" Let her example again be followed by the nobility and gentry; and every poor woman shall be found with a bible, and a bible that can be read, when eyes grow dim, and the head shakes with palsied age. *The Sabbath was no weariness to them.* The Princess was of religious habits, and a strict observer of that sacred day. After public worship, the Prince was accustomed, on that evening, to read a sermon of one of the eminent divines of our church. Let their example again be followed. Let that sacred day be employed in sacred exercises. Let religious knowledge be pursued, and religious feelings be cherished. How worthy this pursuit of rational creatures. How suitable these feelings to immortal souls.—Happily she had been under the care of a pious preceptress, and had been grounded in the principles of the protestant religion, by an amiable and learned prelate. The one gone before her beloved pupil, to a better world; the other, left to grieve, as over the loss of a beloved child. I have reason, from certain information, to hope that these things flowed from Christian principles. *She possessed self-knowledge.* A friend of my own waited on her Royal Highness, to request the sanction of her name to a benevolent institution, which had, for its object, the reformation of the licentious and profane. He thought the state of the objects of this charity required

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she answered all objections herself, by saying, "Sir, we are all sinners."

Sermon by Nathaniel Philipps, D. D., preached at the Unitarian Chapel, Norfolk-Street, Sheffield.

EZEKIEL, chap. XXIV. v. 16.

"Son of Man—Behold I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke."

THIS excellent and amiable Princess, gave an early promise of qualities, which appeared eminently to fit her for that high station she was about to fill, and the important destiny, which, it was trusted, was in reserve for her.

She possessed a truly noble independence of mind, and cherished a just sense of the value and importance of LIBERTY. This regard to that which constitutes the greatest blessing man can enjoy, she manifested in her own case: for, rejecting all political considerations, she resolved to unite herself with the husband of her choice, and to give her affection, with her hand, before the Altar. Nor did her Royal Father oppose her wishes; but gave them his full sanction and support.

When this union was confirmed and established, she devoted herself principally to the duties of retirement and of domestic life.

Averse to dissipation and shew (while unmarried), when she became a wife, her feelings and her taste were unaltered, and she sought her chief delight in the company of an affectionate husband, retired from the tumult of the city, and the splendid circle of the court—in which, however, she was fitted to shine as a star of the first magnitude.

She is said to have united in her manners what the Romans

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called, the "Simplex munditiis," and the "Decus morum dignitate conjunctum," or an unaffected simplicity of manners, with grace and dignity; a deportment, which ensured the highest respect and esteem from all who partook of her society.

Though "young in years," she was "old in that wisdom" "which is more precious than rubies;" (Prov. iii. 15.) for she was in the habit of religious reading, serious reflection, and religious conversation; and it has been asserted, (and I doubt not with truth) that she familiarized her husband with the English tongue, through the medium of the best theological writers in our language.

Her selection of these writings, for such a purpose, affords a pleasing evidence of the serious turn of her mind: and the promptitude with which this mode of improvement was adopted by the Prince, was not less honourable to himself, than to her by whom it was recommended. In truth—her natural cheerfulness of temper and vivacity of spirit were seasoned with the heavenly "salt of religion," to which she failed not to shew her regard both in her family and in the presence of the world. The sacrifice of prayer was offered on the domestic altar with each returning day, and the Sabbath was "her delight, honourable, and the holy of the Lord," (Isaiah, lviii.) Her attendance on the public duties of religion with her consort, was most highly exemplary: for she was very seldom absent from the church of the parish in which they resided, and is said to have been present on the sabbath before her death.

Of the benevolence of her disposition, and of her charity to the poor, they will long speak, who live in that neighbourhood, which was charmed with her affable and generous behaviour.—In truth, she has left no character but that of goodness behind her. The slightest breath of calumny, has never passed athwart the polished mirror of her fame.—Pious—virtuous—beloved—she will this day be consigned to the sepulchre of her ancestors, and "her flesh shall rest in hope," (Psalm xvi. v. 9,) awaiting the resurrection of the just,

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(Luke xiv. v. 14.)* For her, how many bosoms will heave this day with the sigh of tender regret. How many tears shall bedew her bier, and consecrate her memory! Those, who, like ourselves, are distant from the scene of mourning and of death, unite their offering of a just and generous sympathy with her illustrious house; above all,—with a bereaved husband—and father; and—that far distant mother—who, in the "tidings will receive the blow;" and whose hopes are now buried —in a daughter's grave.

Two Sermons by Thos. N. Toller, preached at Kettering.

Psalm lxxxii. v. 6, 7.

"I have said, ye are gods; and all of you children of the Most High. But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes."

THE VANITY *of human greatness* is a truth obvious and acknowledged. In all ages of the world and the church, this has been the common topic of declamation. Patriarchs, prophets and apostles, pastors and teachers, and moralists, together with experienced and reflecting men, of every description, have united in exposing the vanity of wealth, the emptiness of honour, and the frivolousness of shew and parade. "Seekest "thou great things for thyself? Seek them not. Surely men of low degree are vanity, and men of high degree are a lie: to be laid in the balance they are altogether lighter than vanity." "We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out." But notwithstanding all that has been said on this subject, how few hearken to the voice! how few adopt the principle!—men acknowledge it in theory, but reject its influence.

Hence, then, the Almighty sees fit to bring home the senti-

* Early, bright, transient, chaste as morning dew,
She sparkled, was exhaled, and went to Heaven.
YOUNG

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ment on men's minds (so inefficiently admitted) by a grand experiment of its truth, which shall carry its own evidence with it, and convey irresistible conviction to the conscience. The beauteous object shall have glittered and been admired by the multitude for awhile, but it shall have vanished in a moment from before their eyes; and, perhaps, the reason might be, that nothing but *vision* could have convinced them that all this fascinating splendour could have proved, after all, *but a bubble*. Would you know what human greatness is? Obtain your knowledge of it from a visit to the palace of Claremont. Behold, there, in a few hours, a royal mansion become a dungeon!—a lovely Princess, a breathless corpse!—the hope of Britain, an heap of dust!—and the first family amongst us, one of the most bereaved, pitiable, and disconsolate in the realm! But "so passes the glory of the world."

SERMON II.

2 Chronicles, chap. xxxv. v. 24, 25.

"And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah.—And Jeremiah lamented for Josiah, and all the singing men and the singing women spake of Josiah in their lamentations to this day, and made them an ordinance in Israel: and behold, they are written in the Lamentations."

PERHAPS within the compass of human recollection no event of the kind has occurred which has given rise to a mourning equally real, general, and deep, with that which our country now exhibits, and reasons may be assigned which fully support and justify this universal grief.

Death we know, as an abstract event, whenever and however it takes place, is awful and important. It consists in the passage of an immortal soul into Eternity, as well as the commitment of an human body to the grave. But still they are the *circumstantial concomitants* of death, which principally constitute the tenderness of its touch on the feelings of surrounding mourners. Death is awful in the case of decrepit old age; but here we have the withering of blooming youth—"this is a flower coming up, and cut down"—here the sun does not set

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in the west after a long and a tedious day, but "goes down ere it is yet noon."

It is possible for life at *any age* (from circumstances) to become a burden, and the language of wretchedness may proceed from the lips of youth—"I loathe it; I would not live always." Imbittering circumstances may make a palace an house of sorrow—turn robes of state into fetters—and hang a pointed sword by a thread over a throne; and if any thing can be supposed to contribute to the bitterness of the life of an exalted female, surely it must be her being forced into the hateful chains of reluctant marriage—being obliged to give her hand and retain her heart—being made the victim of the state, and a sacrifice to public policy and interest. But what a blessed contrast to this was the case of the Princess Charlotte: here appeared all the freedom, the affection, the cordiality of choice—all the honourable sweetness of wedded love—the union of hearts as well as the junction of hands, and the prospect of a permanent connexion, together with a numerous progeny, sanctioned by law, by conscience, and the approbation of God.

But, alas! this sweet and sacred tie is unexpectedly and abruptly rent asunder, the nuptial torch extinguished and trampled under foot, and we have the painful (not to say unusual) sight before us of a royal husband, almost broken-hearted, bewailing his loss and refusing to be comforted.

Sermon by the Rev. Isaac Purkis, preached at Bethel Chapel, Deptford.

JER. chap. ix. v. 20, 21.

"Hear ye the word of the Lord, O ye women; and let your ear receive the word of his mouth, and teach your daughters wailing; and every one her neighbour lamentation: for death is come up into our windows, and is entered into our palaces!"

IT was an admirable trait in the character of her Royal Highness, that it was not her chief ambition to appear in the

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drawing-room, to be admired in the assembly, to trifle away precious time, and indulge avarice or prodigality at the card-table; to be gazed at in the theatre, and to dazzle in public places; but, with the mild radiance of the ruby, to shine in the bosom of her family, to exemplify the virtues, and possess the enjoyments, of domestic life.

The society and comfort of her Prince, and the happiness of her domestics, were the grand objects of her Royal Highness's solicitude and pursuit: thus to them might be applied the descriptive lines of the poet,

——————"What is the world to them,
"Its pomp, its pleasure, and its nonsense all?
"Who in each other clasp whatever fair
"High fancy forms, and lavish hearts can wish;
"Something than beauty dearer should they look,
"Or on the mind, or mind-illumined face,
"Truth, goodness, honour, harmony and love,
"The richest bounty of indulgent Heaven."

THOMSON.

Here we have abundant cause for grief—that one, whose example might have tended to check dissipation and riot, a disregard to home and a love to public amusements, should be so early called away by death. The departure of this amiable Princess, whose example might have reformed the nation, is a just cause of regret to every one who bears the name of wife, of mother, or of daughter, in the land.

Sermon by Joseph Kerby, V. D. M., preached at the Old Chapel, Cliff, Lewes, Sussex.

ISAIAH, chap. xl. v. 6, 7, 8.

"The voice said, cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field.—The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass.—The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

AND does Jesus himself weep at the grave of Lazarus, and shall we as Christians forbear to weep on such a distressing event as this?

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In fact, his overwhelming and distressing case comes home to the feelings of every man, especially those who have a darling wife to lose: and under such peculiar and distressing circumstances as the present afflicting providences.

No death has been more deeply lamented than that of this amiable Princess; she was affable, though properly dignified, and generous without ostentation. Her poor neighbours shed tears on the intelligence of her death, for they had often shared her liberality. The integrity of her character, ensured the esteem of all; she was truly charitable, for she selected her objects, and she has left a glorious example for the rich and the great, to go and do likewise.

The Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold, were never separated but for a few hours; and that was, when Prince Leopold has been called upon to pay his respectful duty to the Prince Regent at his levees, or on other public occasions.

Charlotte the beloved, and Leopold, knew no happiness without each other, and they lived and pursued the life of domestic happiness; as a pattern to all in humble life to imitate, their study and conduct were to make every one happy upon their establishment; in which they fully succeeded, every thing being conducted with the greatest regularity and good management.

The more we contemplate the character of our lamented Princess, the more we feel our loss, as a national calamity.

Every wife would have gazed upon her, as a bright example of those actions whose performance rewards itself; and constitutes the chief blessing of society.

Such a model, in such an age, may be a subject of lamentation to our children's children.

Every trace of our truly excellent Princess Charlotte, is gratifying to the distressed nation at large, and every publisher feels a melancholy satisfaction in collecting and detailing every fact that serves to keep alive these honourable sympathies of the nation; and you, my dear christian friends, will rejoice

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to hear of the exemplary life of the Princess whom you deplore.

Sermon by the Rev. B. Kennicott, A. B., preached at Monkwearmouth.

MATTHEW, chap. xxv. v. 13.

"Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh."

LOOK at death, my brethren,—see ye not in that *faithful mirror*, the instability, the *nothingness* of this world's goods? Whatever be your opinions, your mistakes, your prejudices, let death dissolve the enchantment, and rivet in your hearts the conviction, that "all is vanity and vexation of spirit;" but religion and love, piety towards God, and goodness towards man. This fatal period awaits us all,—to God alone is it known, how soon it may arrive,—how soon the fate of the departed Princess may be our own; "we know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh."

Shall I intrude upon the sacred grief of the royal father? No man's sorrow will be like his sorrow! Oh! my brethren, he has lost the only child of her mother; of her, who lives estranged from him in a distant clime. No just appeal can be made, but to the hearts of those, who have lost an only child; *no other hearts can know half the bitterness of his.*—May thy childless state teach thee, thou afflicted parent; may it teach us *all* "so to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

And thou, poor, distressed mother, as thou wilt be, when the death-announcing tidings strike on thy heart—let us not *entirely forget thee;* surely thou hast *some claim still* on our sympathy and condolence. Thou shalt be had in remembrance, and we will mingle our tears with thine.

Another sufferer remains, my brethren, with the strongest

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claims upon your respect and pity. My heart bleeds, when I think of his irreparable loss,—his heart-rending woe; who, on the pinnacle of human greatness, and living in the enjoyment of all that this world can bestow, is doomed, in a moment, to tread the valley of sorrow, surrounded with the shadows of death. The afflicted prince, to whom I allude, the choice of his royal bride,—rare fortune amongst crowned heads! in the place of powerful and wealthy dominions, brought as his portion, an honest and upright heart; warm, unvarying affections; and love unfeigned and faithful: of far more consequence to connubial felicity, than empires, with forced and alienated hearts. As might be expected, they lived but in each other's presence.—Except on public business, he never left her; her companion in study: in recreation and exercise; and in religious duties,—" they took sweet counsel together, and walked in the house of God as friends." Dreadful must the shock be, therefore, to such a generous and affectionate husband; dreadful the blow, that dashed from his lips such a cup of blessing! See him, my brethren, poring over the inanimate features, and indulging the delusive hope, that the *soul was* STILL *there,—so lovely was she even in her dissolution;* and imagine, what a pang must have gone to his heart, when the dreadful truth,—the agonizing fact, could no longer be doubted, even by himself, " IT ENTERED INTO HIS SOUL."

From the bottom of our hearts, we lament thy widowed state, thou unfortunate sufferer; but can give thee no consolation, except what may arise from approving thine own conduct, and that of thy late amiable spouse. The praise, indeed, of deceased worth, imbitters its loss.—But, remember, the true disciples of Jesus are promised an *immortal* crown that will *never fade.*—The wife of thy bosom has gone to a better country: and as to thyself, the British nation, with one voice and heart, proclaims thy praises, thou illustrious Prince; and their well-merited approbation shall cheer the latest moments of thy life,—this is all of earth thou canst wish for. It remains, that thou apply to the throne of mercy, for grace

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to strengthen thee in this time of severe trial and affliction; and to direct thy steps in the path that leadeth to everlasting life.

Sermon by the Rev. C. J. Hoare, A. M., preached in the Church of Blandford Forum, Dorsetshire.

PSALM XXXIX. V. 9.

"I was dumb; I opened not my mouth, because thou didst it."

EVERY day's intelligence gives us fresh ground of belief for this all-important fact, that our beloved Princess was prepared to die. I speak from the most unquestionable authority, when I state, that for years past, her consideration had been awake to subjects of a moral and religious nature; and that from the time she had acted for herself, she had manifested a desire, (I use the very expression of those around her,) 'to do always what was right.' One of the last books she ever read with her venerable preceptor, was, one written expressly for her use by a person of great celebrity, and equally eminent for piety and talents; and she read it with the deepest attention, and the highest commendations. The religious character and judicious habits of her amiable, and now doubly interesting, because bereaved consort, the man of her choice, are well known. And with him she had voluntarily retired from the gaieties of public life: with him she had ever acted in private, under the influence of a most harmonious and undivided affection: with him she had knelt around the altar of family devotion; for they had family-prayer: with him, or with his approbation, she had contributed largely and in person, to the wants of the poor around their secluded dwelling; and to the balm of consolation administered for the body, it is well known that the last best gift had been added—the gift of a Bible for the wants of the soul. But a few Sundays before the fatal event, when these two royal personages were sitting at table with a single guest, and attended only by one domestic, the Princess

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expressed the utmost satisfaction in having enjoyed the privilege of a quiet sabbath, and the opportunity of *twice* attending Divine Service. She was a constant communicant at the holy sacrament. If, my brethren, such fruits in the highest station of life may well cause to blush many a nominal christian of inferior rank—if, in any station, they may be deemed, at least, a fair exterior test of an inward faith, and well-directed disposition of heart; shall we question, with respect to our lamented Princess herself, the reason or the result of her removal? Or, can we forbear to hope, that her glorified spirit is now raised to the enjoyment of an heavenly crown, for which, with her babe, she had exchanged the reversion of an earthly one; and that from an higher than any temporal elevation, she is at this moment looking down, and, in pity for our vain regrets, bidding us to "forget those things which are behind, to reach forth unto those things which are before, and to press towards the mark, for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus?" (Phil. chap. iii. v. 13, 14.)

Sermon by the Rev. John Garbett, preached at the Parish Church of Cople, Bedfordshire.

ISAIAH, chap. xl. v. 6, 7.

"The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass; and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field.—The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass."

CONTEMPLATING the character of that illustrious individual so lately taken from us, may it not be confidently asked, what qualities could we require in a Sovereign that she possessed not? Her weeks were employed in the duties of a Christian. Her Sabbaths were spent—not in vice, luxury, and dissipation; but in the house of God, and in reading books of piety and devotion. Was she to be found in the pursuits of fashionable folly, treading the sickly course of vice and profligacy, or was she not rather to be sought in the calm circle of domestic

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enjoyment, listening to the claims of necessity and misfortune, blessing the cottage of the humble peasant, and, happy herself, conferring happiness upon all? Was it the abuse of the bounties Heaven had bestowed,—was it the gratification of luxury and dissipation, that drew from her the reiterated declaration, "I am the happiest of women?"—or was it not rather the pleasure derived from the blessings of all around her, from the happiness of a loving and beloved consort, from the prayers of the family that loved, of the poor, that all but adored, her? Cometh this blessedness or this happiness upon the emaciated votary of dissipation? or is it alone the offspring of innate peace, the homage of a self-approving conscience?

If asked for a proof of those virtues which have rendered the dissolution of our beloved Princess a loss irreparable to this nation, I would send you to the friends her goodness attached, to the poor her bounty fed. See it in the grief of all around, a grief to which this nation never presented a parallel; where all divisions seem for a moment hushed; where all mourn as over the grave of a sister, wife, or child. View it in the almost broken heart of a widowed husband, the agonizing sufferings of a bereaved father, the poignant grief of an orphaned household, the mournful sorrow of a weeping nation. Pause here a moment, my beloved brethren, then repress the murmuring and rebellious principles of your nature, and re-echo the dying language of that blessed soul for whom ye weep, "Not my will but Thine be done." O all-just and righteous God! terrible in Thy judgments, and awful in Thy doings towards the children of men; spare, for the sake of thy beloved Son, spare Thy guilty people, and be not angry with us for ever.

Sermon by Thomas Scott, preached at Aston Sandford, Bucks.

MICAH, chap. vi. v. 9.

"The Lord's voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see thy name; hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it."

APART from all the dazzling circumstances of royal parentage, and being next in succession to him who now *virtually*

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sways the sceptre of an united kingdom, at least equal to that of any other on earth, in solid advantages: and the prospect of being the ancestor of princes to rule this kingdom through successive ages: apart, even from the increasing favour of the public, which every day was augmented, by a tenour of conduct suited to conciliate esteem and affection: apart from this, few persons in any rank of life, have ever had brighter prospects of connubial felicity. At the same time a good constitution, and a very prudent regard to health, united to give our beloved Princess, and the public in general, the expectation of a length of years, and of whatever else can give life on earth its largest measure of solid enjoyment.

The prospect of one so highly favoured and so much beloved becoming a mother, and the near approach of the season, without one cloud to darken that prospect, so raised the publick expectation, that the nation seemed, as it were, to stand on tiptoe, waiting only the signal, to express their joy and congratulation, in every way, which could be devised. And though the expected period is, in all such cases, one of pain and sorrow: yet nothing occurred to damp, even in *her* mind, the prevailing confidence, that she should speedily "forget the sorrow, for joy that a man was born into the world," and one, born in such circumstances of peculiar interest. Doubtless her affectionate consort shared both the solicitude and the hope; and could not but anticipate much satisfaction, in the prospect of an event, which would fill the nation with joy and gladness.

I own, I took so much interest in these events, both from what I learned concerning the parties themselves, and from the consideration of the probably beneficial effects to my beloved country, that I was fully disposed to concur, in my way, in the public rejoicing: and from my weekly paper on the preceding Saturday, was led to expect in the next week's journal, the welcome news of the birth of an heir or heiress to the throne of Britain. But what were my feelings, when on receiving that journal, the very appearance of it confirmed reports I had just before heard!—and when I read the words, "Our bloom-

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ing, our beloved Princess is no more!" No publick event ever was felt by me, as so bitter a disappointment: or excited so deep and lasting sorrow in my heart. Accordingly, as some of you know, I the next day gave vent to my feelings, in preaching on the words of the apostle, "All flesh is grass, and all the glory of man is as the flower of the grass," &c. (1 Pet. i. 23—25.)

But I would hear the Lord say, "Be still, and know that I am God:" "I would be dumb because he did it." I would "hear the rod, and who hath appointed it."

Sermon by the Rev. Robert F. Bree, F.L.S., preached at Peckham Chapel, Surry.

JEREMIAH, chap. vni. v. 14, 15, 18.

"The Lord our God hath put us to silence, and given us waters of gall to drink, because we have sinned against the Lord; we looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, but behold trouble: and when I would comfort myself against sorrow, my heart is faint within me."

HUMAN character is so often the child of accident, and so frequently derives its colouring from adventitious circumstances, that no great dependence can rationally be placed upon the expectation of an undeviating pursuit of every thing that is honourable and virtuous. We are beings of too imperfect a nature not to be sometimes influenced by the occasional ebullitions of passion, or the continual incitements of objects of sense; but in the aggregate of characters from which the least stability in virtue and action may be expected to result, we may safely include those who have been nurtured in affluence, and weakened by excessive indulgence; who, intrusted at an early period of life with unbounded wealth and the unlimited means of every personal gratification, have no other restraint than that which a partial education, or the accidental suggestion of a principle

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naturally virtuous, though weakened by constant indulgence, occasionally supplies.

In the discharge of those of her duties which were immediately of a relative nature, there appears little to disapprove, but much to commend. As a daughter, placed in circumstances of uncommon difficulty and delicacy, she was, happily for her own peace, equally free from that indecision of mind which, denying the right, yet yielded an unwilling obedience to superior power; or that impetuous ardour of temper, which *rashly* opposed an attempt to fetter the indulgence of opinions nature had taught her to cherish and encourage.

Warmly attached to both her parents, she allowed nought but conciliating acts and opinions to escape her; and although she revered with filial affection the person of her father; to her honour be it spoken, no entreaties, no commands, no influence, could induce her to desert or withdraw her affections from an absent mother, whose anxious solicitude and remembered kindness in her childhood, ever secured the warmest filial affections of her grateful and pious heart.

Sermon by the Rev. E. T. Vaughan, M. A., preached at St. Martin's Church, Leicester.

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1 Cor., chap. xv. v. 53.

"For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality."

THE Gospel has something to say to the Christian Mourner 'as the subject of divine inflictions.'—What art thou? A sinner—corrupt child of a corrupt forefather—of one in whose transgression thou hadst part—transgression, for which the earth is cursed, and thou upon it—transgression, through which thou hast received the judgment of an infected nature—a nature, which is in its very essence the just object of God's wrath and condemnation, and which has acted itself in innu-

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merable negligences, ignorances, forgetfulnesses and wilful sins—each constituting a forfeiture of every claim to divine favor—each deserving not only the withdrawal of all good and enjoyment, but also the killing of the body, and the killing of both body and soul in Hell.—Wilt thou complain then, son—daughter—of affliction—wilt thou complain, if, when the wages of thy sin is death, God, who reserves unto thee the gift of eternal life, shall, in the way to it, warn thee that thou art a transgressor, by blasting some one or many of thine earthly comforts and hiding some of thy idols from thy face, lest thou stumble and be cast away for ever?

Sermon by George Cornelius Gorham, M. A., Fellow of Queen's College, preached before the University of Cambridge.

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1 Cor., chap. vii. part of v. 29, 30.

"But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that . . . they that weep (be) as though they wept not."

IN lamenting the awful dispensation with which this country has recently been visited, the christian patriot will remember that he must weep in a frame of humble resignation to the mysterious will of Providence. In our limited view, this event is, indeed, most deplorable; for, doubtless, according to the maxims of human policy, every interruption of the direct line of succession is a national calamity:—but there are counsels deeper than those of men; and if ever we have been taught the utter emptiness of worldly expectation, the lesson has been given in the sad cause of our present sorrow. The calculations of human wisdom sink into folly before the inscrutable purposes of the Most High. This observation is not directed against the exercise of prudent foresight; but is intended to check presumptuous and too anxious speculation into futurity. We should look rather to our actual state and present conduct, than to remote possibilities; humbling ourselves under

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the mighty hand of God, by repentance for those sins which have provoked his anger, and by reformation in every class of society. Instead of suffering our minds to be disturbed by political alarms excited by an over-curious anticipation of remote contingencies, relative to our hereditary succession, let us repose our sorrows in submissive reliance upon Him "by whom kings reign." Let, indeed, the tribute of our tears be paid to that virtuous Princess, by whose early death our fondest hopes have been frustrated!—let us heave the patriotic sigh over the tomb which envelopes the remains of illustrious rank, of youth, of loveliness!—but let us weep in the same humble spirit of resignation "*as though we wept not;*" leaving the succession of our Rulers with Him, upon whose "shoulders" is "the government" of empires, as well as of His church—who "ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will,"—who is "KING of kings, and LORD of lords!"

Sermon by William Bengo' Collyer, D. D. F. A. S., Honorary Member, and one of the Vice-Presidents of the Philosophical Society of London, &c., preached at Hanover Chapel, Peckham, and at Salters' Hall, London.

LAM. chap. v., v. 14, 15.

The elders have ceased from the gate: the young men from their music. The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning.

I SCARCELY know how to trust myself to speak upon this subject. Our loss is irreparable: and the time in which it occurred, calculated to give it the full effect of its awful character. It was when Europe was reposing in tranquillity, after a state of warfare prolonged beyond all former example: it was when the military glory of our country had reached an height unparalleled in former periods of our history, and when it was committed to her to strike the decisive blow which should termi-

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nate a conflict upon the issue of which the liberties of mankind were suspended: it was when the earth had brought forth her fruits, when the channels of commerce were again opening, when the hopes of the husbandman and of the merchant were alike reviving: it was when the political importance of Britain was most deeply felt, and her alliances with surrounding potentates most firmly cemented: it was when the whole empire were looking with joyful anticipation to the prosperous issue of an event most earnestly desired—the pledge of domestic felicity of the most endearing character, the confirmation of the reigning dynasty by new and extended relations, the birth of the future heir to a crown consecrated to freedom, and pre-eminent among the nations: it was at this flattering moment, that the blow descended, which annihilated our fond and confident expectations, and swept at once two princes to an untimely sepulchre!—"The elders have ceased from the gate; the young men from their music. The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning!"

It speaks to all ranks.—It is one of the disadvantages of rank, that while every thing surrounding it tends to fascinate and flatter, the most solemn considerations of religion seldom find admission within the privileged circle. It is not always that those, who have access to persons in elevated stations, have the courage to speak with fidelity: nor is the heart always disposed to receive the dictates of truth. But, oh! a preacher has this day arisen, in the afflictive dispensation under which we mourn, who *will* be heard—who speaks from the palace to the cottage—and sounds an alarm that penetrates all recesses, and pervades all stations! And if those shall listen, who have hitherto refused instruction: if the warning voice, heard so often in vain in the temple of religion, shall be effectual from the mausoleum of royalty:—if those who will not hear the pleadings of public ordinances, shall attend to the "still small voice" of mortality, the event so justly deplored will not be unsanctified, and the illustrious dead will not have expired in vain. If the great lesson shall be taught, that man

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is sent into the world for infinite purposes—that eternity is suspended upon the present moment—that it is to be secured only by faith in the sacrifice and righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ—that there is "no difference, for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God"—that "none other name is given under heaven among men whereby we must be saved"—that whoever will avail himself of this great salvation, must feel his guilt and misery, and "come unto Him that they may have life"—that the power which called the universe into existence, and shall raise the dead, can alone renew the heart, and constitute the christian—that God is "waiting to be gracious,"—and that what is to be done, must be done now, or may be left undone for ever: if these infinitely important truths shall be impressed upon the heart by this awful providence—all will not be lost! And this is the voice which arises from the tomb—let all ranks hear it, for it speaks to all: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might: for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest."

Sermon by Henry George Watkins, M. A., preached in the Church of St. Swithin and St. Mary Bothaw.

PSALM, CXLVI. V. 3, 4, 5.

"Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help; his breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish! Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God."

ALL who dwelt at Claremont, from the highest to the lowest, have witnessed with pleasure the domestic *sabbath worship* in which the Princess Charlotte and his Serene Highness her consort took so devout a part. Aware of the rocks on which some other public characters had nearly made ship-

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wreck, it was the studious care of this happy couple to avoid, by a prudent management of their income, what they themselves called—" running in debt." These things, as far as they were known, gave the religious and moral part of the community a pleasing hope, that such an example afforded by persons in the highest rank of society, might give a tone, now so much wanted, to the morality and religion of fashionable life, and thence diffuse habits of sobriety, contentment, and subordination, among the inferior classes. These things endeared the Princess to the country she was expected to govern; and every one when he thought of her, felt a lively interest in her welfare.—But how is this gold now become dim—how is the fine gold changed!

Sermon by William Steadman, D. D., preached at the Baptist Chapel, at Bradford, in Yorkshire.

ISAIAH, chap. xxii. v. 12.

" And in that day did the Lord God of Hosts call to weeping, and to mourning, and to baldness, and to girding with sackcloth."

SUCH is the case, when a family in the ordinary ranks of society suffers so painful a bereavement. But the impressions become more extended, in proportion as the station of the parties concerned is exalted. In the present instance, the painful stroke has been inflicted on those whose station was the highest. The British empire, though in its domestic territory it be by no means the most extensive, yet is on every account the most important, and the most distinguished empire on earth. In its constitution, in its wealth, its commerce, its manufactories, in the cultivation of the liberal arts, in its internal strength, its arms and its conquests, it stands without an equal; and has drawn upon it the attention of the world. Yea, more, in its liberties both civil and sacred, in

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its being the residence of true and vital religion, in the efforts which it has made and is making for the diffusion of the most valuable benefits to mankind, and for the patronage which such efforts have received from the most dignified orders of society, not even to the exception of the princes of the blood, nor of the monarch himself, the British empire has no parallel. Now the deceased was born heir to the splendid throne of this empire; and the babe of which she was pregnant, had his life been spared, would in his turn have succeeded to the same dignity. Of this dignity both are deprived; both are cold in death; and, instead of being seated on a throne, are this evening to be laid in a sepulchre.

Sermon by John Styles, D. D., preached at Acre-Lane Chapel, Clapham.

ISAIAH, chap. xl. v. 6, 7, 8.

"The voice said, Cry. And he said what shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

"The word of God shall stand for ever."

MORE durable than monuments of brass, more imperishable than the pyramids, and the mightiest labours of man, it has remained unimpaired through all the revolutions of time: and in its transmission into the various languages of earth, none of its spirit has evaporated. Amidst all the diversities of customs and manners, it has never changed its character. Its indestructible pages have come out of the fires of persecution unhurt. The rage of men and fiends have not, for one moment, neutralized its power, weakened its efficacy, or arrested its progress. Like a radiant angel, it has wafted consolation and joy through the earth, and shaken the beaming glories of salvation, like fragrant odours, from its wings. It shall stand

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for ever: its doctrines shall eternally shine in the clear evidence of truth; its promises be realized in the possession of the "inheritance which is incorruptible, undefiled, and which fadeth not away;" it will remain the record of God, and of the "faithful and true witness," through every succeeding age of time, and the revolving periods of eternity.

Now we behold it in contrast with the frailty and mortality of man; but soon, very soon, shall this contrast cease, and man shall be as immortal as the word that makes him so; for "the word of our God shall stand for ever."

Sermon by John Mason, preached at the Octagon Chapel, Taunton.

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1 THESS. chap. v., v. 2—4.

"For yourselves know perfectly, that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and Safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief."

METHINKS I see the unbeliever upon a death-bed. He is alarmed, surprised, and sore afraid. He views the world that he is about to leave, but sees nothing that can afford the least satisfaction; he looks forward to the world into which he must shortly enter, and beholds nothing but darkness and everlasting woe! He shudders at the thought of dying! He was forming plans, and flattering himself that he should live to execute them—perhaps heaping up riches—living in the unrestrained liberty of sensual enjoyment—without the least concern for the salvation of his soul; or, if at all concerned, unacquainted with Jesus, the only way of salvation—When, lo! death seizes him—puts an end to all his schemes—drags him, however unwilling to go, to endless perdition!

Behold the opposite character! View him in his dying moments! That religion, by which he has lived, supports him in

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the hour of death. He looks back, and sees a victory obtained, on Calvary, over sin, death, and hell. He looks forward, and sees his Saviour waiting to receive his departing spirit. Instead of a gloom on his countenance, he smiles, and says of death, "It is a messenger from my Father, with the glad tidings of a final release from every pain." He adopts the language of the Psalmist, and says, "Though I pass through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil," (Psalm xxiii. v. 4.) He sings, "Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" (1 Cor. xv. v. 57.) "In one moment, his happy spirit leaves the earthly house, and enters the temple of God, whence he shall not go out," (Rev. iii. v. 12.) View him now in the possession of a mansion—a crown—a harp. Now, he is exploring the unsearchable riches of Christ; admiring and adoring the unparalleled love, and matchless grace of a dying, risen, and exalted Saviour.

Sermon by Andrew Reed, preached at the New Road Meeting-House, St. George's in the East.

JEREMIAH, chap. ix. v. 21.

"Death is come up into our windows and is entered into our palaces."

WE are all pleased to recognise in the dignified inhabitants of Claremont, a steady observance of household devotion—a reverence for the hallowed services of the Sabbath—a condescending concern for the welfare of the poor—and a taste for those simple and domestic pleasures which were once the characteristics of our country. Oh! it was a lovely sight, and the eye rested on it with delight, to see two princely persons "whom love had joined and sympathy made one," retiring from the glare of public life, and venturing on their own

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resources for mutual happiness. Feeling all that so intimate a union implies—confident in each other's characters—nobly independent, they stemmed the tide of fashion—they shewed themselves superior to their rank, and entered a magnanimous protest against that dissipation, that luxury, that selfishness, and that libertinism which have gone far to render the felicities of domestic life altogether obsolete in the higher circles. But the vision, however pleasing or valuable in its moral influence, was but for an appointed season, and it has vanished.

Sermon by John Keysall, M. A. F. S. A., preached in the Church of Bredon, Worcester.

Isaiah, chap. xxvi. v. 9.

"When thy judgments are in the Earth, the inhabitants of the World will learn Righteousness."

IT hath seemed good to that omnipotent Being, whose hand holdeth the balance of the universe; and by whom "kings reign, and princes decree justice," (Coloss. chap. iii. v. 10,) to visit this our land with a most awful, and most afflictive dispensation of his providence. He who in the execution of his inscrutable, but gracious purposes towards mankind, not unfrequently frustrates the best arranged schemes of human wisdom, and worldly policy, hath thought fit to remove from before our eyes, and to tear as it were from our very hearts, our amiable, accomplished, and beloved Princess, the presumptive heiress to the British crown, and the joy and expectation of the whole state: Her, in whom but a few days ago the fondest wishes, and the brightest hopes of the nation were concentered; and with respect to whom, nothing now remains to us, but the mournful remembrance of her virtues; and a deep and universal regret for her loss.

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Sermon by Robert Aspland, preached at the Unitarian Church, Hackney.

ISAIAH, chap. xl. v. 6, 7, 8.

"The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

THIS day exhibits in the eyes of the British public, as affecting a proof of the fadingness of all human glory, as ever struck the imagination, or melted the heart into tenderness. It was meet, as an act of sympathy with human nature, if for no other reason, that we should assemble to make use of so extraordinary an occasion of moral impressions and Christian reflections. Death is the same in itself to all mankind, and the spectacle is always solemn and admonishing; but Divine Providence sometimes in the course of ages sets it forth in such strong contrast to all that is held great and good to the human being in possession and expectation, that it would argue a want of both piety and humanity not to contemplate the awful scene, and to seek to better the heart by the mournful contemplation. Such a case is the recent example of mortality in the most exalted of our British families. Never, surely, was the hand-writing of Heaven more visible upon any human event, never was the inscription more plain, *Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.* It is seen and felt in all our dwellings, from the palace to the cottage; the sentiment is associated with our persons; and it this day reverberates in thousands of our houses of prayer.

Sermon by Thomas Bartlett, A. M,. preached at the Church of Kingstone, Kent.

ISAIAH, chap. xl. v. 6, 7, 8.

"The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field. The

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grass withereth, the flower fadeth; because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

NOT many hours are passed, since the honoured object of our mutual condolence stood elevated upon the pinnacle of earthly grandeur. The sole heiress of a kingdom great among the nations, we were fondly contemplating in her, the mother of a race of illustrious monarchs. We were vainly anticipating the period, when she would be no less securely seated on the throne of her ancestors, than enthroned in the affections of a loyal and grateful people; but, where are now our expectations—where are now our hopes?—Withered by the stroke that laid her low, they are decayed in her decay, and must be buried with her! O my brethren! cease from man, whose breath is in his nostrils; repose not your confidence in dust and ashes, but seek your strength, your happiness, your all, from Him "by whom alone kings reign and princes decree justice."

Sermon by the Rev. John Davies, A. M., preached at New Brentford.

JOB, chap. xxx. v. 23.

"I know thou wilt bring me to death, and to the house appointed for all living."

DID we but fully convince ourselves of the unspeakable importance of religion;—did we but place in *one* scale the momentous concerns of eternity, and in the *other* the fleeting nature of our present existence, blended with its trials and its sorrows; did we but reflect, that at every period of life, from the dawn of infancy, to the decrepitude of age, mortals have been hurried to their long home;—that every day of the year, and every hour marked upon the dial, have concluded to some the term of their probation;—such undeniable, and perhaps unwelcome truths, if they did not awake the mind to seriousness, might for awhile interrupt its repose.—Already may the tree be cut down, which is to bear you to your grave; though

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with health in the countenance, and spirits buoyant with delight, soon may you become the solemn monitor of all whom your name can reach.

In the morning of youth; with an unspotted name; living in a state of connubial happiness, and with the delightful prospect of maternal endearments; in short, with every thing that could gratify a virtuous ambition, this illustrious personage might reasonably have looked forward to many years of life, and health, and joy. Though born to royalty, and with all the blandishments of a court at her command, she preferred the comfort of retirement; exhibiting the *rare* union of exalted rank, with unaffected piety, and practical benevolence. Happy in an alliance, entered into with the most cordial approbation of her own heart, and fondly anticipating the only event by which that happiness could be increased, behold her, called upon, in the hour of weakness and extremity, to renounce the completion of a mother's joy.—With humble resignation, and holy acquiescence to the will of heaven, she received the sad tidings of a *lifeless* child, and displayed, in her last moments, an unsubdued fortitude of mind, which religion only could inspire. To her might be applied the animated language of the dying saint, "The time of my departure is at hand: I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous Judge shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them that love his appearing.

Sermon by the Rev. T. Morell, preached at the Independent Meeting House, St. Neot's.

JER. chap. ix. v. 21.

"For Death——is entered into our palaces."

ENTER the lofty portals of that palace; pass through the long retinue of splendid but deserted apartments; draw nigh to that stately couch—that *bridal death-bed*—there lies, in

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the cold embrace of death, a lovely, an illustrious Princess, whose heart, but yesterday, beat high with maternal expectations; whose bosom thrilled with a delight, which none but a mother can feel, while cherishing the fond, but, alas! visionary hope, of soon pressing to that bosom her first-born, a child, who might hereafter occupy the throne of a mighty empire! O! what is she now?—a pale, a breathless corpse—beauteous indeed in death, but yet bereft of life—utterly unconscious of the myriads of tears that have embalmed her memory, and which must long continue to flow—unconscious, too, of the presence of that illustrious mourner, who stands gazing with tearless eye on a form so dear, as if unwilling to believe that death has indeed robbed him of his earthly all, that *that* pulse has for ever ceased to beat, and that *that* hand can no more respond to his affectionate pressure. But I forbear,—grief like his is sacred, and must not be too rudely approached. May He who has inflicted the deadly wound, and whose prerogative it is to "heal the broken in heart," graciously impart divine consolations to the bereaved!

Sermon by the Rev. George Richards, A. M. F. A. S., preached at the Church of St. Mary Le Strand, Westminster.

MATTHEW, chap. XXV. v. 13.

"Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour when the Son of Man cometh."

IN the midst of life, says our Liturgy, we are in death. The Scriptures throughout, inculcate the same solemn truth. Our existence is represented as a shadow that passeth, as a flower that fadeth, and as grass that withereth, which to-day is, and to-morrow is cast into the oven. Even in its most extended state, it is described as but a span long. Its flight is rapid, like the path of an arrow through the air, and of a vessel

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through the sea: the air and the waters close again, and no trace of the passage remaineth. We have, in truth, but a short time to live. We drop, some in infancy; some in early youth; some, like her whom we now so deeply deplore, in the flower and opening bloom of life; some in more advanced years; and some amidst the natural decay of age. But no one knows the day of his departure. We wait our appointed time, and die. To some our Lord cometh at the third hour, to some at the sixth, to some at the ninth, and to some even at the last watch. The rich man, in health and prosperity, laid up for himself much good in store; yet that night was his soul required of him.

Sermon by Joseph Fletcher, M. A., preached at the Independent Chapel, Blackburn.

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1 Cor. chap. vii. v. 29—31.

"Brethren, the time is short; it remaineth that both they that have wives, be as though they had none; and they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; and they that use this world, as not abusing it; for the fashion of this world passeth away."

OUR holy religion is friendly to all the tender sensibilities of our nature: Tears are the natural effusions of grief, and alleviate the sorrows from which they spring. The deepest affliction is that which darkens the tearless eye and finds no vent for itself, out of the agonizing and distracted heart. How many have sought relief from the wounded spirit of mortified pride, disappointed hope, or conscious guilt, in the cup of intemperance, the dissipations of life, or the rashness of self-destruction! O sufferer! whatever be thy calamity, turn thine eyes to that fountain, where thou mayest taste and live for ever! Let thy sorrows drive thee to the refuge which infinite mercy has provided. Look at the hand that smites thee. It is the hand of a Father: it is not yet the rod of vengeance. He

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calls thee to listen to the voice of heavenly compassion. He says to thy perturbed and agitated soul—" be still,—and know that I am God!" In all the condescension of love he deigns to expostulate and instruct—" Wherefore dost thou spend money for that which is not bread—and thy labour for that which satisfieth not?—Hearken diligently unto me—Hear and thy soul shall live!"

Sermon by John Pye Smith, D. D., preached at the Gravel-Pit Meeting-House, Hackney.

JER., chap. ix. v. 20, 21.

" Yet hear the word of the Lord, ye women, and let your ear receive the word of his mouth; and teach your daughters wailing, and every one her neighbour lamentation: for death is come up into our windows, and is entered into our palaces."

IN their nature, accountableness, and moral state, all men are originally equal. But the intellectual and providential distinctions of individuals, and the necessities of society, produce the inequalities of station, power, and rank. Government is instituted for the benefit of mankind, for the terror of evil-doers, and for a praise to them that do well. Hence have arisen, through a variety of complicated circumstances and occasions, high dignities and hereditary rank. By the reason of the case, by the authority of God's holy word, and by the political constitution of Great Britain, these are held in trust for the public good, and under high responsibility to man and to God. To those whom " his hand has thus made great," an " honour is due;" not the false honour of servility and flattery, but the rational homage of respect and loyalty, obedience to the laws, and attachment to the person so long as he remains faithful to his trust. We feel it to be our choice and our happiness, not less than our duty, to love and reverence and " honour the king, to render to all their dues, to obey magistrates, and to be ready to every good work." But when kings and their families have been the means of doing eminent good,

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their memories are embalmed in every recollection of honour and tenderness, and the attachment of prudence and duty becomes a warm-hearted and heroic devotedness. No law of the human affections is more constant than this. Nations have always been enthusiasts in gratitude to just and beneficent sovereigns.

Sermon by the Rev. T. F. Bowerbank, M. A., preached in the Parish Church of Chiswick, Middlesex.

Amos, chap. viii. v. 9, 10.

It shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord God, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day. And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and your songs into lamentation: and I will bring up sackcloth upon all loins, and baldness upon every head: and I will make it as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day.

BUT there is a lesson, vouchsafed in the mournful occasion which has assembled us on this day, that addresses itself to all, in our several relations and capacities. And, God be thanked, it is a lesson by which we may all profit. Death, under every possible circumstance, affords a subject of serious and important consideration to the human mind. It is that great event in which every man must one day bear his part: that event which, removed from the hopes and consolations of Christianity, is of all dreadful things, both in contemplation and reality, the most dreadful. The wish of Balaam, that he might "*die the death of the righteous, and*" that his "*last end*" might "*be like his,*" (Numbers xxiii. 10.) was never yet heard by mortal ear with a feeling of indifference or disregard. No man ever yet hesitated in adopting it as his own. Would to God, however, we could be as easily prevailed upon *to live the life* of the righteous! For be assured, if ever we hope to follow the righteous to glory, we must first live as he has done. The *consequences* of *death* never can be separated from the *pursuits* of life; and if *these* have not been previously *holy*, the *former* must never be expected to be *blessed*.

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Sermon by William Newman, D. D., preached in the Baptist Meeting-House, at Bow, Middlesex.

LAM., chap. ii. v. 1.

"How hath the Lord covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud in his anger, and cast down from heaven unto the earth the beauty of Israel, and remembered not his footstool in the day of his anger."

HER condescending kindness to the poor in the neighbourhood in which she lived, was in the highest degree amiable. She was accustomed to visit the cottagers and relieve their wants, with every token of genuine feeling. It is very pleasant to reflect that she was most beloved where she was most known. Oh that this could be affirmed with truth of all, as it may be of some, who move in elevated spheres.

The memory of the Princess will be cherished with admiration, on account of her conjugal affection and fidelity. Her marriage was pre-eminently happy. She often said that she was the happiest woman in the kingdom. It is too well known that happy marriages are seldom seen among the great.

Born in Britain, and educated in constitutional principles, her heart was truly British; and all classes and denominations of our countrymen, it might have been expected, would have considered her as their own.

When the sad tidings were first heard in London, it was remarked by a Dissenting Minister with whom I was conversing, '*We* have lost a good friend!'

Sermon by William Gordon Plees, Vicar of Cressing, and Curate of Rivenhall, Essex.

JAMES, chap. iv. v. 13, 14.

"Go to now, ye that say, To-day or to-morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy, and sell, and get gain: whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

IF the early and untimely death of this amiable and beloved Princess is calculated to rouse the dormant feelings, and to in-

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duce us to reflect upon our moral and political situation; surely it may also be made highly productive of good in another point of view, that of a serious and solemn lesson to us all, as individuals. Here we behold one in the full enjoyment of exalted rank, in the gay and charming season of vigorous and healthy youth, hurried in one most bitter moment from among the living, and numbered with the dead. She, who so lately might justly hope to be spared for many long years to come, is gone for ever. She is vanished as a morning cloud. Alas! she whom we so recently saw, where is she? She is blotted out from the living page, as though she had never been. What, then, should this teach us? What is the improvement we should derive from it? These are questions in which we are all concerned; and which it becomes our interest, as well as our duty, to put to ourselves.

Sermon by John Evans, A. M., preached at Worship Street, Finsbury Square.

Ecclesiastes, chap. i. v. 1, 2.

The Words of the Preacher, the Son of David, King of Jerusalem,—Vanity of Vanities, saith the Preacher, Vanity of Vanities, all is Vanity."

"GO," said St. Chrysostom, "go to THE TOMBS! no spectacle will be found more proper to moderate the human passions; and we say to you the same, go to *the tombs of your fathers;* or, if a spectacle yet more striking is necessary to move us, let us transport ourselves in spirit to that ancient temple which is the last, the perpetual dwelling of our sovereigns! Alas! their palaces are but the *asylum* of travellers—their *sepulchres* are their *perpetual dwellings.* The Pontiff to whom Louis the Great had intrusted the education of his son, one day conducted thither *the heir to the throne,* and did he ever give him a more impressive lesson? Let us then descend into those funeral vaults in their train. I think I hear the elo-

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quent instructor say to his august pupil, as he said at the funeral of *a Princess cut off in the flower of her years*,—O Prince, we see how the divine power, justly irritated against our pride, reduces it to nothing, that he may for ever equal all ranks as he forms us all of the same dust! Can *we* build upon these ruins? Can *we* lean, however splendid "the remains, on this inevitable wreck of human things?"

Sermon by George Clayton, preached at Walworth.

ISAIAH, chap. xl. v. 6.

"The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field."

WE should learn from this subject to soften our resentments. Dr. Johnson has remarked, in some part of his writings, "that our lives are made up of injuries and reparations." It is, indeed, scarcely possible to live, without either giving offence, or being offended. Affronts are frequently imagined where they were never intended, and injury is sometimes incidentally inflicted, without design or premeditation. Hence it comes to pass, that scope is given for the exercise of those great principles of christian forbearance and charitable forgiveness, without which, the peace of society can never be preserved. Life is too short, and death too certain, to admit of cherished animosities. Who could desire to go down to the grave with feelings of resentment towards any, whom he is to meet speedily at the tribunal of God? It has on some occasions been seen, and, to the eye of the Christian observer, it is a gratifying spectacle, that an event of mortality draws together divided minds; hushes the din of controversy, produces an oblivion of party feeling, and amalgamates in one general sentiment of grief, men of opposite principles and hostile dispositions. We seem, at this moment of national sorrow, to have been touched at the very heart, and have been led by common consent to gather round the grave of the illustrious

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dead, there to pour forth our tears, and there to bury our resentments. Britain has ofered to surrounding countries, a sight rarely beheld. A great nation dissolved in the sorrows of an unfeigned condolence, voluntarily paying a tribute of loyalty and affection to their departed Princess, and bound to each other, by the ties, not of political concord and of civil interest, so much as by the bonds of a generous and all-pervading sympathy.

Sermon by Joseph Ivimey, preached at the Baptist Meeting, Eagle-Street, London.

Ecclesiastes, chap. viii. v. 8.

"There is no man hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war."

WE cannot, nor should we, divest our minds from those considerations which the love of our country inspires, and which the admiration of its distinguished personages excites. when a person, one of our country, eminent for literary research, or legislative influence, or heroic fame, or active benevolence, expires: we imperceptibly feel the pang of sensibility, and almost insensibly drop the tear of sympathy. Thus we felt, when a Porson, a Pitt, a Fox, a Nelson, a Sharp, a Fuller, or a Reynolds, was taken away by death. The love of country led us to exclaim, as having lost a member of the great national family "alas, my brother!" And can we help feeling, when a Princess, eminent for exalted rank, for conjugal affection, and for benevolent actions—a Princess, the presumptive heir to the British throne, is snatched prematurely from us; especially when, a few hours before, she hears that her child, whom she had "borne in sorrow," who she had probably expected would have held the sceptre of empire in the most distinguished kingdom of the world, was taken from her? Here is a circumstance which comes close home to the loyal Briton's heart! The tree, root

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and branch, flower and fruit, torn up, and withered by the same storm? When the daughter of a judge of Israel died in such circumstances, it is said, "*About the time of her death, the women that stood by her said unto her, Fear not, for thou hast borne a son: but she answered not, neither regarded,*" excepting that "*she named the child* ICHABOD, *saying, The glory is departed from Israel.*" (1 Sam. iv. 20, 22.) A very similar scene was witnessed at Claremont, when the Princess, in answer to those who informed her that her son was dead, only said, "The will of the Lord be done." We will not call the departed infant ICHABOD; saying, the glory is departed from the land, or from the royal family; but certainly it is one of those afflictive events which royalty has not often known, and that the kingdom has not often experienced.

Sermon by the Rev. Alex. Fletcher, preached in Albion Chapel, Moorgate.

DANIEL, chap. iv. v. 35.

"And he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?"

THESE expressions in our text fell from the lips of a great monarch. They are part of his pious reflections, after the Most High delivered him from an alarming disorder, which expelled him from his palace and his throne. In the zenith of his glory, while he was giving vent to the pride of his heart, his reason was taken from him. He fled from the abodes of men; he sought to the haunts of wild beasts; he did eat grass like oxen; his body was wet with the dew of heaven. Seven revolving years were the witnesses of his degradation. We have an interesting account of the pious acts which were performed by his returning reason.—Though we have lost a *public blessing*, which shall never be restored, though the *object* of a *nation's affection* shall never return from the grave,

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to sway the sceptre of these realms, yet, let us follow the example of the king of Babylon; and, in our reflections, let us lift up our eyes to heaven; "let us adore the Most High, and let us praise and honour Him, who liveth for ever and ever; whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and whose kingdom is from generation to generation. Before Him all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing. He doeth his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: none can stay his hand, nor say unto him, What doest thou?"

Sermon by John Kentish, preached at the New Meeting-House, Birmingham.

JEREMIAH, chap. xv. v. 9.

"Her sun is gone down while it was yet day."

THERE are two classes of persons who form and diffuse false views of the characters of individuals of royal and noble birth. Some, the parasites and sycophants of greatness, blazon their idol's imaginary virtues, and adorn it with colours not its own. Others, and perhaps a more numerous body, from circumstances and motives which I need not point out, appear to take a malignant pleasure in exaggerating the infirmities, the follies, and the vices, of men of the highest rank. But our much-lamented Princess, so recently the joy and fond hope of the nation, was happily exempted, in a considerable degree, as well by her pre-eminent merits as by her wise plans of life, from the eulogies of such dangerous panegyrists, and from the accusations of such unworthy detractors. What we know of her temper, conduct, attainments, principles and views, is most richly to her credit. A good understanding, assisted by the efficacy of religion, appears to have corrected, in the best manner, the occasional impetuosities of youthful feeling, and to have converted it into a frank, generous, affectionate spirit, which felt for the happiness of all surrounding crea-

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will, in various ways, become known, and will perpetuate the memory of such transcendent, but alas! departed worth, in the public mind; while by those exalted relatives to whom her admirable qualities were most intimately known, and by whom they were most highly prized, the irreparable loss they have sustained, will be unceasingly lamented. Nor is it easy to determine whether the anguish of their feelings will be soothed, or the sense of their calamity augmented, by the universal testimonies of respect and sorrow manifested in every part of the empire; for, certainly, never were stronger marks of respect and sorrow voluntarily exhibited among any people (and truly voluntary they are) than on the present most lamentable catastrophe—a catastrophe, indeed, which, extending its influence beyond the pale of consanguinity, cannot but deeply interest the feelings of every Briton. Tears dim every eye,—grief is depicted on every countenance; and the solemn and decorous indications of sympathetic condolence, manifested in the habiliments of mourning, which I behold around me, are but the faint and imperfect expression of the internal sensations of every bosom.

Sermon by James Lindsay, D.D., preached at the Meeting-House, Monkwell-Street.

PSALM XXXIX. V. 5.

"Verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity."

IT is here, indeed, in the bosom of domestic tranquillity,—in a voluntary retirement from the gaieties of fashion and the adulations of the great,—in her preference of simple pleasures and improving occupations,—in her affability to her dependents,—her consideration for the poor,—and above all, in her unremitting devotedness to the man of her heart.... It is here that we behold her character in its fairest, most attractive features; it comes home to our bosoms in all the loveliness of virtue, and makes public approbation assume the softer tone of private sympathy. In thus preferring the peace of solitude

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to the ostentations of grandeur,—private duties to public amusements,—the comfort of a husband, to the admiration of a court,—she gave an unequivocal proof of right principles and a solid understanding; and by persevering in the same course, if it had pleased God to spare her life, she would have secured the respectful attachment, and fitted herself for the successful government, of a free, a generous, and a truly loyal people. For be it ever remembered, that no situation is so favourable to the growth both of public spirit and of private virtue, as that kind of retirement, which this youthful pair had chosen,—a retirement in which, at a distance from the fascinations of the great world, leisure was afforded for useful reading, and for that meditation which enlarges the mind and elevates its views. Here too the offices and endearments of the domestic state were nurturing all those gentler feelings of the heart, which, under the influence of religious principle, are the only effectual check against the projects of ambition, and against the abuse of power to the purposes of selfishness.

Sermon by the Rev. Henry Lacey, preached at Salters' Hall, London, and at Plaistow, Essex.

JEREMIAH, chap. xv. v. 9.

"Her sun is gone down while it was yet day."

AND do we ask, "wherefore has the Lord dealt thus with us?" no serious and observing mind can be at a loss for an answer. "For the transgressions of the nation are the people stricken." "The Lord's hand was not shortened that it could not save" our Princess, "nor was his ear heavy, that it could not hear" our prayers in her behalf; "but our iniquities separated between him and us, and our sins hid his face from us that he would not hear." Immorality and vice were grown up amongst us to an height, which seemed imperiously to call for some heavy judgment, to check its advances, and bring down its haughtiness and strength. Multitudes "proclaimed their

sin as Sodom"—made their crimes the topic of unrestrained and public conversation: instead of hiding their vices, they boasted and gloried in them, as if it were an honour to emulate and excel each other in rebellion against God. Who then can wonder that so different, so serious a theme has been furnished for their social intercourse—that so sudden and powerful a restraint has been imposed upon their evil passions—that they have been compelled for once to think of death and eternity! Some of our public journals have recently been polluted with sentiments and language, so daringly opposed to truth and holiness—so directly subversive of divine as well as human authority—that it was high time for some calamitous event to occur, to force the thoughts of their degraded writers into a more serious channel. A contempt of the gospel and of the worship of God—which always takes the lead in every thing that is vicious in principle and profligate in character—has been gaining strength in several fashionable as well as unfashionable quarters: and although none expected it would be punished and restrained by such an event as that which has befallen us, every one must be convinced that the magnitude and prevalence of the evil deserved to be visited, if it had been possible, with even a heavier loss. "The crown is fallen from our head: woe unto us, that we have sinned!"

Sermon by the Rev. George Hughes, M. A., preached at Walthamstow, Essex.

2 Sam. chap. i. v. 27.

"How are the mighty fallen?"

THAT grief, which is so loudly and universally expressed, reflects high credit upon the people; it shews them not insensible to departed worth; and proves, that their admiration is not to be secured by the pomp and splendour that surround, but by the virtues that adorn the throne; yet it adds a keener pang to the recollection of the illustrious husband, and too

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truly attests the value of the dear departed associate of his domestic hours, when he beholds her character so justly estimated,—her memory so much revered. At the same time, may it be some consolation to the suffering relative, that the same voice, which so loudly deplores the privation, bears ample testimony to the distinguished manner in which he has fulfilled the duties of the christian, the husband, and the man. Long, will he live in the hearts of a grateful nation, endeared to them by his unobtrusive merit, and consistency of virtuous conduct!

Weep, daughters of Jerusalem, your feeling hearts will well know how to appreciate the visitation we deplore. You, who know the value of conjugal love, of domestic endearments, of a virtuous home—you, who have wept for joy over the living pledge of mutual affection, and with a delight peculiarly your own, have traced the virtues of the father gradually maturing in your child—you will poignantly feel the anguish of the mother, bereft in the midst of suffering of her hope of consolation;—you will be alive to the horror and distraction of the husband, when the same hour that robs him of his child, steals from him the mother also.

Sermon by the Rev. Jacob Snelgar, preached at the Chapel, near Church Row, Hampstead.

ECCLESIASTES, chap. xii. v. 5.
"The mourners go about the streets."

EVERY human being is an immortal creature, destined to live through eternity; hence infinite importance is attached to his present circumstances and individual character. This conception ennobles our view of mankind; leads us to consider them, under the most interesting feelings; and impresses on us a consciousness that, whatever they may require, we may need for ourselves.

Were there, indeed, no hereafter, we should still contend

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that religion, as far as it is applicable to the circumstances of man in this world, is of unspeakable consequence, a most desirable good, and an inestimable blessing. But when we enter the chamber of sickness; when we close the eyes of our fellow-creatures in mortality; when we go down to the gates of death; when we survey the dominions of the king of terrors; when we look beyond sense, and the world, and time; then! *then*, it is, that we need the cheering light and the animating hopes of the blessed Gospel: without which, standing near the sepulchres of the dead, we may truly say:

> "That darkness, death, and long despair
> Reign in eternal silence there."

Oh! it is religion, divine and glorious christi*anity*, that teacheth us the knowledge of God; it is religion, that makes us acquainted with ourselves; it is religion, that creates in us all things new; it is religion, that works that mighty change of mind and transformation of character, which nothing human could produce; it is religion, that yields us our noblest enjoyments, and imparts our sublimest hopes; it is religion, that leads us to the Saviour, that reveals his character, that displays his love, that declares his all-sufficiency, that enables us to believe on him, and to rejoice in him; that tells us of his great salvation, and makes him all our desire.

Sermon by the Rev. William Brown, preached at Baker-street Meeting, Enfield.

JER., chap. xv. v. 9.

"Her sun is gone down while it was yet day."

OH, there is something peculiarly distressing in early death! When the old die—though they are often justly lamented—though they leave sometimes a void which cannot be filled—and though we can never allow that the time is come when we ought to be willing to part with our friends—yet we must confess, they have had their day—they have drank the

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full cup of life—they set like the sun at evening-tide. But early mortality seems, and in fact is, an inversion of the order of nature. It excites wonder, it painfully disappoints hope, it is the sun going down ere noon. And, oh! how disappointing in this case! The youthful parent, and the child that never saw the light, and the blooming hopes of a country! let us, while we view it, pause and remember what we are! Let us next look forward. We have long been gazing on mortality, and we do well to consider our end. But this is not the full end of man. We must view the subject not only by the light of nature, but by the light of revelation. We believe in the immortality of the soul; hence we write on the tomb, "Here lies what was mortal!" We believe in the resurrection of the dead; that whether the body be enshrined in regal pomp, or only covered with the clods of the valley, it shall rise—that these dry bones shall live. We hear a voice which says unto us, "I am the resurrection and the life!" we anticipate the hour when the "trumpet shall sound," and all nations "shall be gathered together" before the Judge!

Sermon by the Rev. Samuel Slocock, preached at the Parish Church of Newbury.

GENESIS, chap. XXX. v. 1,
"Give me Children, or else I die!"

BUT amidst this universal eagerness, to hail the opening of that tender blossom, which, in fancy's eye, was hereafter to expand into a beauteous and goodly plant, the pride and ornament of the soil on which it was to grow; what man amongst us seemed, at any time, to entertain either fear, or apprehension of the safety of the parent stem, from which it was to spring? That it would wither, droop, and die, no one perhaps foreboded! Yet it has thus seemed good to Him, whose counsels are impenetrable, and whose judgments are "past finding out." That domestic circle, which, but a few

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days since, presented so fair a picture of connubial happiness, and conjugal affection, has been invaded by the universal enemy, in a form more terrific than he commonly assumes. Of two, united by the tenderest love, one has been taken! And in that one, how much of future happiness, of interest, of importance, was centered? One, on whom a husband's peace depended! One, in whose life all of us had an interest! One, in whose dissolution so much of the general good must necessarily be involved! One, too, who died, not from the completion perhaps of her own desires, as did Rachel, for it was not her's, it was a nation's prayer! One, the tidings of whose death wounded so deeply the sensibilities of our nature, and struck upon the heart like a thunderbolt from heaven! One, who preferring the calm satisfaction of peaceful retirement, to the bewildering hurry of dissipation; who, born to royalty, and to all the splendour of earthly magnificence, chose, as it were, seclusion and obscurity, in which, with the husband of her choice, and of her affection, she exhibited the rare and beautiful combination of exalted rank and princely birth, with piety towards God and love to man.

Sermon by Abraham Rees, D.D. F.R.S. F.L.S., preached at the Old Jewry Chapel, in Jewin-street.

JEREMIAH, chap. ix. v. 23.

"Thus saith the Lord, Let not the Wise Man glory in his Wisdom, neither let the Mighty Man glory in his Might; let not the Rich Man glory in his Riches."

LET those who glory in their health and strength look on that countenance, so lately blooming, but now faded; on that frame, so firm and robust, but now drooping to the grave; on those accomplishments, natural or acquired, which rendered their possessor lovely and beloved, and which flattered the hope of future years, now only serving to increase the sympathy and grief of the lately admiring multitude, as well as the pomp and

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parade with which their remains are deposited in the tomb! Let those who value themselves on their wealth remember, that riches take to themselves wings, and fly away, seeking new owners, and new lords, and leaving their once prosperous, and perhaps boasting proprietors, to the disgrace, or at least to the distress of penury and dependence! In such precarious possessions, there is no ground for exultation and confidence. Mutable and transitory in their nature, they forbid the boast and hope of their deluded votaries. More especially when it is considered, that "our tenure of them, prolonged to its utmost duration, is of very momentary continuance:"—"all go," says Solomon, "to one place." The grave is the common habitation of the wise and simple, the powerful and the despised, the rich and the poor. There terminate all those views and hopes which wisdom, influence, and wealth, without virtue, furnish. In a few years, the distinctions which these objects create will cease. Their possessors will slumber together, and be forgotten; and they will mingle their dust in one undistinguished mass; nor, after a few years of decay and dissolution, can the mouldering remains of the man of genius and science be separated from those of the illiterate; nor those of nobles and princes from their meanest vassals.

Let us, then, anticipate the change which time will soon produce. Let us look forwards to the approaching end of all living; and let us learn to hold low in our estimation what death and the grave will very soon utterly destroy. It will be in vain to erect monuments, to mark the spot where the men of worldly wisdom, influence, and wealth have been deposited. These monuments, however beautified and garnished, will all perish with the lapse of years: nor can the pride of the living confer worth on the dead, or secure a lasting memorial of them. "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom; neither let the mighty man glory in his might, nor the rich man in his riches." These endowments and possessions have a fixed boundary; and this boundary is at no great distance.

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Sermon by David M'Nicoll, preached in Wesley Chapel, Meadow-Lane, Leeds.

1 TIMOTHY, chap. vi. v. 15, 16.

"Who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen."

IT is obvious to remark, that the late painful event may be the occasion of much *immediate* good to the souls of our dear countrymen; and this, particularly by means of the character of our late incomparable Princess, now brought forward fully to the view of the nation, and operating through the medium of that deep and solemn feeling by which the public mind is moved. Her name is endeared to us by our admiration of that character, by our conviction that she fills a throne in heaven, and by the sad sense of our loss at her untimely departure. Surely this endearment gives her virtues and example a paramount authority.

Our sorrows bring a soothing with them, which fixes our enamoured spirits on the bright pattern she has left us, and inclines us to emulate her inimitable excellencies. The whole occasion is pervaded by uncommon solemnity, but no horrid image, no imp of hell, intrudes upon the heavenly scene, to divert our attention from that angel of our love and delight, whom our eye sorrowingly follows to the confines of blessedness. We are not afraid with any great amazement, or distracted by dread. We feel that we are tranquil, and can listen, in sweet abstraction from the din of mortality, to that voice, which lately, on earth, gave the very music of virtue to all within its sound; but which now, from heaven, speaks, with sufficient distinction, and seraphical effect, the noblest lessons of religion and virtue, to millions left imprisoned in this sublunary world. That voice says, Follow me; and *where* is the Briton, who will rebelliously object to obey the command of *such* a voice?

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Sermon by C. F. Ramftler, preached at Fulneck.

EZEKIEL, chap. vii. v. 27.

"The King shall mourn, and the Prince shall be clothed with desolation, and the hands of the people of the land shall be troubled."

OH short-sighted mortals, do not from any of these considerations flatter yourselves with length of days. Take to heart the warning, which our faithful God, no doubt, intends to bring home to us by the death of our Princess. No pomp and grandeur, no power on earth can withstand the shock of death. Suppose ye, that God will spare your lives, because as yet you are not prepared to meet him, or that he will wait until you choose to meet that preparation? Be not deceived; his ways are not as our ways, nor are his thoughts as our thoughts. Princes on the throne, and peasants in the cottage, infants in the cradle, maidens in the bride-chamber, impious and unconcerned rebels, devoted servants of God,—all yield to the blow of death, that messenger, who so often makes his appearance, when least looked for, and sends some to endless bliss, and others to everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord. While, therefore, breath is in you, prepare to meet your God. How many, who this evening are met to solemnize the interment of the Princess Charlotte, will, on the next Wednesday probably, be here no more. May not the tolling of the bell to-morrow announce the death of some of us? May not a congregation be assembled before the expiration of another week, to follow *our* bodies, clad in a shroud, to the grave?—But indeed, I should be guilty of neglect of duty did I not at the same time direct my dear hearers, *how* to prepare to meet our God. To the same Saviour, whom our king commended to his late youngest daughter, I would therefore direct you. None but Jesus can do helpless sinners good. Sinners we are, without exception; sinners by nature, and sinners by practice. As sinners, we are under sentence of eternal condemnation. Our

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state is hopeless while we are not deeply convinced of this; I therefore pray, that God in his infinite mercy would by his Holy Spirit grant you this deep conviction of sin, and of your lost condition. This is the first preparation to meet our God. He then invites us by the lips of Jesus, saying: "Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out." It is Jesus, who was delivered for our offences, Jesus, who was raised again for our justification, who made a full atonement for human guilt; by his grace through faith in his blood alone we are saved; he bled that he might cleanse us from the guilt and pollution of sin; he died that we might live. You he invites most affectionately and most solemnly to confess your sins, and to place your hope of salvation on that mercy alone, which he purchased by his precious blood. Believing in him, and calling on his name, you shall be saved. He will forgive, and abundantly pardon; but delay not, trifle not, beloved fellow-mortals, with your dying moments. He is a pardoning God, long-suffering, merciful and gracious; but he is also a just God, jealous of his own holiness; while justifying you through his all-sufficient merit, he will also implant a principle of love to himself in your heart, and this will lead, through the sanctifying assistance of his Holy Spirit, to purity of heart, and righteousness of life. Thus presenting yourselves to him with spirit, soul, and body, as a living sacrifice, you will live to him—how long? he alone knoweth—and once die to him, and live with him in glory.

Oh that all who hear me might follow this simple advice! May the day of interment of the body of the late Princess be the spiritual birth-day, the commencement of a life from God, to some of our number. May all of us be permanently impressed thereby with the necessity to be always ready, seeing that we know not what day or what hour the Lord cometh. Now I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among them that are sanctified. *Amen.*

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Sermon by Rabbi Tobias Goodman, preached at the Synagogue, Denmark Court, Strand.

ECCLESIASTES, chap. vii. v. 1 and 2.

"A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth. It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to the house of feasting; for that is the end of all men: and the living will lay it to his heart."

I NEED not tell you, my brethren, that her Royal Highness was one who shone as a bright star in the firmament, and whose virtues dazzled all about her; for by her domestic and pious demeanour she gained the hearts of those who knew too well how to appreciate her worth. Nor can we, for a moment, wonder, that the nation's tears should flow in such abundance, for so irreparable a loss.

Happy for the rich, as well as the poor, to imitate such rare virtues! Happy for the great and noble to gain by the lesson bequeathed to them by her inimitable conduct!

The wise and royal philosopher, in Prov. xxxi:, most emphatically and beautifully describes the quality of a virtuous woman: the image of his profound and elegant description, is so like the ever-to-be-lamented Princess, that I cannot omit calling your attention to it.

"Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all."

"She stretcheth out her hand to the poor, yea, she stretcheth forth her hand to the needy."

"She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness."

Of her inconsolable consort, his Serene Highness Prince Coburg, we may use the words of the royal mourner, 2 Sam. i. 2 and 3.:

"Who were lovely and pleasant in their lives; and in their death they were not separated."

Surely it is evident, that her royal consort, from the conduct

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he manifested both before and since her decease, has had sufficient occasion to say,

"Who can find a virtuous woman; for her price is far above rubies."

And, my brethren, we may also add,

"Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates."

Such, my dear brethren, is the elegant description given of a perfect virtuous woman, by our inspired philosopher.

Sermon by William Harris, preached at the Chapel, Wallingford, Berks.

EZEKIEL, chap. XXIV. v. 16.

"Son of man, behold I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke."

THE death of this lovely Princess was desired by none; her life, prosperity, and comfort, by all. We may, therefore, rest assured, that if such a result as that which has taken place, had for one moment been contemplated, all her royal relatives had been at hand; and every description of aid within the power of professional advice to afford, would have been in readiness without the delay of an instant. But when God is pleased to say, "I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke," he can hide consequences from man, and make him blind to those things, which, after the event has occurred, appear most obvious; or he can permit all the sagacity and skill of fellow-creatures to be called into exercise, and still may say, "Vain is the help of man;" for "dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

In the present mournful case, it appears that God had an awful stroke to lay upon the royal family, nobility, and whole population of Britain; and he permitted the spirit of slumber to fall upon us, under the influence of which we dreamt that our mountain stood strong, and sported with the illusive phan-

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toms of ease and felicity, without once awaking from our reverie, to offer up a prayer that the vision might be realized. I charge my own heart with the criminal neglect; I charge it upon you, my hearers; I charge it upon the ministers of God throughout the kingdom, and upon the whole nation. Oh, Sirs! how culpable have we been, in not converting the subject of our desires, our confident expectations, and joyful hopes, into the matter of our daily prayers. Is it not written, "In every thing by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God;" and yet we all have neglected a duty as obvious as it was imperious; so that of us it may be said, as of the ancient church, "blindness in part hath happened unto Israel." Let all who feel disposed to ascribe the event exclusively to second causes, and to arraign others at their bar, first recollect whether they were in the habit of entreating the Almighty to avert any such calamity, and, in his good providence, to fulfil the hopes of the nation; and then "let him that is without sin cast the first stone;" for who can tell but *the prayer of faith might have saved the sick.* In the ears of some, this may sound like enthusiasm, and will probably be stigmatized by sceptical men, as romantic and absurd. I am not, however, now talking to deists, a set of men for whose principles I entertain the most unqualified contempt, and for whose pitiful souls I can cherish, even under the genial influence of christianity, only that sort of commiseration one feels for a poor wretch who has made himself an outcast from all but the common charities of social life, by endeavouring systematically to deprive his fellow-creatures of whatever they esteem most valuable. But I am addressing myself to christians, who believe and acknowledge that *the way of the Almighty is in the sea, and his path in the great waters, and his footsteps are not known;* and such are bound, on the principles of their faith, to admit, that if a spirit of prayer had prevailed through the nation, instead of mourning as we do this day, our hearts might have been filled with gladness.

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Sermon by Robert Hall, M. A., preached at Harvey-Lane, Leicester.

JEREMIAH, chap. xv. v. 9.

"She hath given up the ghost: Her sun hath gone down while it was yet day."

LET them turn their eyes then, for a moment, to this illustrious Princess; who while she lived, concentred in herself whatever distinguishes the higher orders of society, and may now be considered as addressing them from the tomb.

Born to inherit the most illustrious monarchy in the world, and united at an early period to the object of her choice, whose virtues amply justified her preference, she enjoyed (what is not always the privilege of that rank) the highest connubial felicity, and had the prospect of combining all the tranquil enjoyments of private life, with the splendour of a royal station. Placed on the summit of society, to her every eye was turned, in her every hope was centred, and nothing was wanting to complete her felicity, except perpetuity. To a grandeur of mind suited to her illustrious birth, and lofty destination, she joined an exquisite taste for the beauties of nature, and the charms of retirement: where far from the gaze of the multitude, and the frivolous agitations of fashionable life, she employed her hours in visiting, with her illustrious consort, the cottages of the poor, in improving her virtues, in perfecting her reason, and acquiring the knowledge best adapted to qualify her for the possession of power, and the cares of empire. One thing only was wanting to render our satisfaction complete, in the prospect of the accession of such a Princess: it was that she might become the living mother of children.

The long wished-for moment at length arrived, but alas! the event, anticipated with such eagerness, will form the most melancholy page in our history.

It is no reflection on this amiable Princess to suppose, that

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in her early dawn, with the "*dew of her youth*;" so fresh upon her, she anticipated a long series of years, and expected to be led through successive scenes of enchantment, rising above each other in fascination and beauty. It is natural to suppose she identified herself with this great nation which she was born to govern; and that while she contemplated its pre-eminent lustre in arts and in arms, its commerce encircling the globe, its colonies diffused through both hemispheres, and the beneficial effects of its institutions extending to the whole earth; she considered them as so many component parts of her grandeur. Her heart, we may well conceive, would often be ruffled with emotions of trembling ecstasy, when she reflected that it was her province to live entirely for others, to compose the felicity of a great people, to move in a sphere which would afford scope for the exercise of philanthropy the most enlarged, of wisdom the most enlightened; and that while others are doomed to pass through the world in obscurity, she was to supply the materials of history, and to impart that impulse to society, which was to decide the destiny of future generations. Fired with the ambition of equalling, or surpassing, the most distinguished of her predecessors, she probably did not despair of reviving the remembrance of the brightest parts of their story, and of once more attaching the epoch of British glory to the annals of a female reign. It is needless to add, that the nation went with her, and probably outstripped her in these delightful anticipations. We fondly hoped, that a life so inestimable would be protracted to a distant period, and that after diffusing the blessings of a just and enlightened administration, and being surrounded by a numerous progeny, she would gradually, in a good old age, sink under the horizon, amidst the embraces of her family, and the benedictions of her country. But alas! these delightful visions are fled, and what do we behold in their room, but the funereal pall and shroud, a palace in mourning, a nation in tears, and the shadow of death settled over both like a cloud! O the unspeakable vanity of human hopes! the incurable blindness of man to futurity! ever doomed

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to grasp at shadows, to seize with avidity what turns to dust and ashes in his hand, "*to sow the wind and reap the whirlwind!*"

Sermon by the Rev. Martin Richard Whish, M. A.

MICAH, chap. vi. v. 9.

"The Lord's voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see thy name; hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it."

"WHEN thy judgments are in the earth," says the prophet Isaiah, "the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness;" as these are only of a temporary nature, they are infinitely less in importance to that final and everlasting recompence of reward that will be awarded on the solemn day of retribution, when God shall judge the secrets of all hearts by Christ's gospel, and "render to every man according to his deeds: *to them*, who by patient continuance in well-doing, seek for glory, and honour, and immortality, *eternal* life; but unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish upon every soul of man that doeth evil; but glory, honour and peace to every man that worketh good." But however these judgments, which are only temporary, are calculated to impress our minds with high notions of the majesty of God, who is, "of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on iniquity," and to lead us unto God to repentance and self-abasement; yet such is the depravity and blindness, and insensibility of the human heart, till renewed effectually by divine grace, that even these lose their intended effect, unless it pleases God to touch our hearts by his grace, which otherwise, instead of being softened and made pliant to his sovereign will, "who worketh all things after the counsel of *his own* will," would become hardened and inaccessible to the visits of his grace, and thus frustrate the merciful ends and intent of all these trying visitations of providence, by which he is pleased at different times to visit the earth.—It is with a

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view of improving a late solemn and peculiarly painful providence, from regard to the important consequences in which it involves us as a *nation*, and respecting the high and eminently distinguished personage, the loss of whom cannot be sufficiently appreciated, or, to "speak after the manner of men," (for with God all things are possible), easily repaired, that I have selected the words before us; and, in this view, I shall endeavour to suggest such topics for our private reflections, as may lead us to consider seriously, wherefore the Lord contendeth with us as a *nation*; that as "the Lord's voice by this solemn providence crieth unto the city, the *man of wisdom may* see his name, and hear the rod, and who hath appointed it;" and may God give us his grace, that we may patiently learn the lessons to be taught by it, so that He may have all the glory, and we the profit and blessing of all that He is pleased to inflict upon us. Amen.

Sermon by the Rev. Thomas Lewis, preached at Orange-Street Chapel, Leicester-Square.

GENESIS, chap. xviii. v. 25.

——————"Shall not the Judge of all the Earth do right?"

HOWEVER the arrangements of the Divine Providence may seem contradictory to the declarations of his word, he is assuredly doing right. There is, in truth, no contradiction here—that is impossible; it only *appears* so to us who see but a very small part of the scheme of Divine Providence. All his arrangements perfectly correspond with what he has declared in his word, and are all combining together—working together, though we do not clearly see the operation, to promote his own glory and his people's good. When the venerable patriarch exclaimed, "All these things are against me," he was not aware that they were actually working together for his benefit. He saw not the ultimate purposes of God, and could not judge of the adaptation of the means employed to the issue

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intended. Concerning us, Brethren, it may often be said, as it was concerning the disciples, "These things understood they not at the first." O, no! there are many links in the chain of Providence which we do not perceive. Our spiritual eye-sight is too dim. Many operations and arrangements, which we do not understand, and which, while we are rashly concluding them to be inimical to us, and contrary to the promises upon which the Lord hath caused us to hope, are all perfectly consistent with his most holy, wise, and gracious purposes, and in unison with the testimonies of his word. "As the different virtues of different drugs concur to make up the medicine; as the different strings and instruments of music produce harmony; and as the different colours, the dark shades, as well as the light, contribute to the beauty of the picture, so the different operations of Divine Providence, however gloomy and afflictive, are all accomplishing his purposes of love and mercy towards our ruined world, and promoting the real interests of his church and people."

Whatever apparent severity there may be in his dispensations, the Judge of all the earth will do right. What numerous examples are upon record of the truth of this! Notwithstanding the cruelty of Joseph's Brethren, and the many difficulties that he met with: though he was cast into a pit—taken up and sold to the Ishmaelites—carried down into Egypt, and there imprisoned, he declares God sent him before to preserve life, and so it was. *They* meant it for evil; but God ordered it for good. Notwithstanding the difficulties Israel met with in the wilderness, the enemies they had to encounter, the want of provisions, and the many judgments to which they exposed themselves, we are told, it was the "right way, that they might go to a city of habitation." And notwithstanding Job was stripped of all his possessions and children in one day, and reduced to the deepest distress, plundered by his enemies, censured by his friends, and assailed by Satan, he found, and he gratefully acknowledged, that, amidst all the severity of the discipline employed with him, "the Judge of all the earth"

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had done right.—Ah! Brethren, God's dealings with his people have often a very gloomy aspect, as if he were meditating their destruction, while he is really consulting their truest advantage, and promoting their salvation.—"Verily, he is a God that hideth himself," while he is at the same time "the God of Israel, the Saviour." There may appear to be much severity in his dispensations, but "the Judge of all the earth will do right."

Sermon by the Rev. John Kaye, D.D., preached at St. Mary's Church, Cambridge.

PSALM CXIX. V. 71.

"It is good for me that I have been afflicted."

IN estimating the characters of Princes we seldom make due allowance for the obstacles which the circumstances of their birth oppose to their moral improvement. Our blessed Lord has expressed by a strong similitude the greatness of the temptations to which wealth exposes its possessor; but when wealth and power are united in the same person, the danger becomes doubly formidable. Accustomed from their earliest infancy to command the ready obedience of all around them and to obtain immediate compliance with their desires; besieged by flatterers who persuade them that they are not bound by the same rules to which men in humbler stations of life are subject; the great are too apt to contract a habit of neglecting the convenience and the feelings of others, and of referring all things to their own gratification. Even minds naturally disposed to benevolence are soon hardened into this callous insensibility, unless they are early impressed with religious principles and motives. By these our illustrious Princess escaped its fatal influence. Though raised so far above the common level of mankind, she thought none so low as not to be entitled to her regard. The power, which her elevated rank conferred

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upon her, was in her eyes a trust for the discharge of which she was accountable: and with this conviction deeply rooted in her heart, she omitted no opportunity of gaining those qualifications which might enable her worthily to act her part upon the busy theatre of public life. She felt the awful responsibility of the situation in which her birth had placed her; and strove, by acquiring the mastery over her own passions and desires, to fit herself for the arduous task of exercising dominion over others. No pursuit had any charms for her which had not some tendency to promote her intellectual or spiritual improvement. Innocent and instructive recreations; the acquisition of knowledge; the performance of acts of devotion to God and of benevolence to mankind; these were the employments which diversified her day: employments always delightful to the pure of heart; but doubly so to her, who shared them with a companion of habits and disposition congenial to her own.

Fancy not that, because you are now young and vigorous, you have necessarily a long course to run; and that it will be time to think of death when many years of pleasure shall have passed away. Meditate rather on the lesson which the fate of this illustrious Princess presents; and learn that not the aged only are exposed to the shafts of death, but that the young are equally the objects of his aim. And should God assign to you an untimely end, like hers; should you, like her, be cut off in the flower of youth; will it then be said of you, that, like her, you employed the short space allotted you on earth in acquiring those habits, and that frame of mind, which might have rendered the prolongation of your life a blessing to your fellow-creatures? that, surrounded by earthly enjoyments and gratifications, like her, you could set bounds to your desires nor abused the gifts of Providence? That, like her, you "remembered your Creator in the days of your youth," (Eccl. chap. xii., v. 1.) and walked in his commandments, and took delight in his worship?

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Sermon by the Rev. Thomas Le Mesurier, B. D., preached at the Parish Church of Haughton-le-Skerne, Durham.

JOB, chap. xxxiv. v. 18, 19. 20.

"Is it fit to say to a King, thou art wicked? and to Princes, ye are ungodly?—How much less to him that accepteth not the persons of Princes, nor regardeth the rich more than the poor? For they all are the work of his hands.—In a moment shall they die, and the people shall be troubled at midnight, and pass away: and the mighty shall be taken away without hand."

IT is to this last great and most important truth, pressed as it must necessarily be upon our minds by the awful and afflicting event for which the whole nation is now mourning, that I propose more especially to call your attention in my present discourse. I do it, because it strikes me as being in itself most important and edifying, not only at such a moment as this, but at all times; as tending most particularly to check that spirit of discontent which is so apt to spring out of the irregularity of conditions which it has pleased the Almighty, for good and wise ends, to establish in this world; and as even thus calculated to remove one of the great stumbling-blocks which lie in our way, and which take us off from that entire obedience and submission to God's will, which is the only sure road to salvation. There is, indeed, no mistake more fatal than that which is so commonly made, that riches or earthly power, or high situation, always and invariably bring with them happiness and comfort; that the men of wealth or rank have nothing to do but to enjoy themselves; and that they do in fact enjoy all that is good and desirable in this world. Most dangerous indeed, I say, is this very false notion; because, while it makes men discontented with their condition, and, even by that, sinners in a high degree before God, it most strongly also tempts them to obtain for themselves the riches and the power which they so envy and covet, by fraud or oppression, practised upon their neighbours in a greater or less extent. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance to destroy or counteract this so dangerous

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error; to assert and to make all men feel and confess, what all those who believe in the eternal and infinite goodness and justice of God, must feel and confess, that he is the same God, not only to the Gentiles as well as the Jews, not only to one nation or description of men as well as to another, but to every individual of those nations and people; that he has not confined happiness or enjoyment to any portion of them, but extends his gifts to all equally; that, as St. Peter was made upon a memorable occasion to declare, "God is no respecter of persons; but in every nation, he that feareth God and worketh righteousness is accepted with him." (Acts, chap. x. v. 34, 35.)

Sermon by the Rev. Lewis Turnor, preached in the Parish Church of Clunbury, Salop.

Ecclesiastes, chap. xi. v. 8.

"If a man live many years, and rejoice in them all, yet let him remember the days of Darkness, for they shall be many."

SO framed is our nature, that whether our years be many or few, we cannot "rejoice in them all." If, indeed, it fell to the lot of any human being "to rejoice in them all," it was to her who was the nation's hope.

For from that early period when the mind begins to exercise reflection, the source of happiness as well as of misery, to within a few hours of the dawn of that day on which her first year of darkness began, it may be fairly concluded, that no real infelicities could have interrupted the peace of her mind. Placed by the constitution in a station, than which only one is higher; a station, so framed, if the expression may be used, as to afford great latitude of power for doing good, and opening a prospect to the filling of that high station, on which the experience and wisdom of ages has been exerted to perfect it, for advancing and preserving civ

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zation through the mass of population in the United Empire; for promoting prosperity through, and imparting happiness to, the various ranks and degrees, into which that population has fallen; for rewarding those, who aid by their talents and personal exertions in supporting the character of this country as a wise and great nation; for adding to its power, and maintaining its tranquillity and grandeur; placed, in short, in a station exempted from many of the evils of life, and in possession of power to dispense many blessings, her years were, no doubt, years of happiness.

Very different is the situation of all, in other stations, however elevated. The power of deriving happiness from benevolent gratifications has its limits: for benevolent acts must be bounded by prudence, and since we quickly arrive at her boundary, we must quickly stop. Indeed, elevated stations have a wider scope for their exercise; being the channels through which the Highest permits many blessings to run, they that fill them may be considered as having a constant source of uniform satisfaction, and often, most heart-felt pleasure.

The middling station, too, with which many connect the greatest uniformity of happiness, has its means of keeping in frequent activity the sympathies inherent in our nature.

No station, indeed, is denied the exercise of these sweeteners of life. Those in the humblest, possess the power of rendering mutual aid in health and sickness; they can speak to each other "to exhortation and comfort;" of their loaf they can part with a morsel to the hungry, and at their fire-side they can revive the weary traveller, perishing with cold.

But the happiness we derive from the exercise of those feelings which Providence has implanted in our nature, as emanations of himself, is subject to much alloy. For it hath pleased him to implant in it also their opposites, which, if not restrained within their prescribed bounds, render us dissatisfied with ourselves, and often engender in the heart the "worm that never dieth."

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Sermon by the Rev. Charles Webb Le Bas, A. M., preached in the Chapel of the East India College.

1 TIMOTHY, chap. ii. v. 1, 2, 3.

"I exhort that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men; for Kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may live a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty: for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour."

THERE is one way, especially, in which the qualities of those who govern, must, even in the most guarded forms of monarchy, exert a direct and mighty influence on the character and the fate of nations committed to their charge,—their personal example is either a bitter curse, or an unspeakable blessing to their people. History will have been studied to little purpose, if it fails to teach us this. No one surely can rise from contemplating the crimes, the follies, and the miseries, which give their depth of tragic interest to the records of human kind, without this indelible conviction,—that of all the choicest blessings which the loving-kindness of Heaven can bestow on any people, none should be more gratefully received than that of a sovereign, who openly and firmly takes his stand on the side of morality and religion; who proclaims, like Joshua: "as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

If these things be so;—if the example of the great is either a treacherous meteor which lures to the regions of death, or a burning and a shining light, which puts to shame the works of darkness; if this be so, surely we have a warrant to grieve with a more than ordinary measure of sorrow, for the untimely doom that has snatched from us that illustrious Female, who had gathered round her all the genuine feelings of British loyalty. I will not attempt to compute the sum of this lamentable loss; I will not enumerate all the reasons we have to mourn for this heavy dispensation; nor recount all her titles to the regret

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which attends her to the tomb. The theme is upon every tongue;—every heart is full of it. And in the midst of our exceeding and bitter anguish, it is consoling to witness the truth of judgment as well as feeling, with which the estimate of the loss has been made. It is to the honor of our countrymen that they have set so just a value on those qualities which have been taken from us: that they perceive so truly, and, I hope it may be added, so piously, the force with which, under a gracious Providence, those qualities might have influenced the character, the honor, and the fortunes of this people. Some of our most delightful anticipations arose from the sincerity with which she seemed to rest her happiness on the charities and duties of domestic life; "that only bliss of Paradise, that has survived the fall." This circumstance alone was sufficient to make our hearts beat high with expectation. It taught us to hope, that had she lived to fulfil her high destinies, vice would have shrunk abashed from her presence; that heartless and dissolute folly would not have been able to live under the rebuke of her eye; that she would have done much to make profligacy as unfashionable as it is worthless and degrading; and would have forbidden it to rear its head in the precincts of that throne, which is the natural sanctuary of all those laws, divine and human, which bind society together. Virtue, in whatever rank it is found, is always a commanding spectacle; it extorts the unwilling homage of wickedness itself: but it is infinitely more commanding when seen in exalted station. It appears there, environed with snares; surrounded by all the gaudy bribes, all the glowing seductions, which can debauch the fancy, and pervert the principles,—yet calmly superior to all these glittering plagues; and seeking its enjoyment in those pleasures which secure the approbation of conscience, and the benediction of Heaven. From this vantage ground its power is great indeed. It has a "grace invincible,"—a severe and awful beauty, which all the remorseless energies of evil are unable to confront.

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Sermon by Richard Boyle Bernard, A. M., preached in the Parish Church of G——.

Amos, chap. viii. v. 8.

"Shall not the land tremble for this, and every one mourn that dwelleth therein?"

DEATH, even in its mildest form, is afflicting to humanity; and did we not *believe that our blessed Saviour is to be our Judge*, and that he will act as mediator with the Father, for those whom he redeemed with his most precious blood, we might justly tremble at the prospect of appearing in the presence of a Being, in whose sight no man living shall be justified, and who considers not the stars as pure.

There is, in truth, nothing more afflicting to humanity, than to behold a valuable member in any rank in society cut off, when to our eyes, he seems to be running a most useful and beneficial course. But we are reminded in the sacred volume, that we now distinguish but a small part of the scheme of Providence, and "can understand but a portion of his ways, at whose reproof the pillars of heaven tremble and are astonished." (Job, chap. xxvi.)

Our holy religion furnishes us with abundant reasons why we should not sorrow as those who have no hope for our departed friends. We are assured, that "the souls of the righteous are in the hands of God, and that there shall no torment touch them: that it is only to the unwise that they seem to die, and that their departure is taken for misery; and that though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality."

Thus, whilst, *as men*, we may be permitted to join in bewailing the severe loss which this nation has sustained by the melancholy instance of mortality which we deplore, we must, as Christians, remember, "that those who are beloved of the Lord are often taken away from amongst a wicked generation, lest wickedness should alter their under-

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standings, or deceit beguile their souls. For, honourable age is not that which standeth in length of time, nor that is measured by a number of years; for, some being made perfect in a short time (by an unspotted life) fulfilled a long time, and having pleased the Lord, he hasted to take them away from among the wicked."

Sermon by the Rev. John Corrie, preached at the Old Meeting-House, Birmingham.

PSALM, ciii. v. 15, 16.

"As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth; for the wind passeth over it and it is gone, and the place thereof shall know it no more."

DEATH is, in almost all circumstances, an awful and distressing object. The severe sufferings which frequently precede it; the entire change it produces in our situation; the expectation that it will place us in the more immediate presence of the holiness and majesty of God; joined with that consciousness of imperfection and of error, which the very best of men must feel—generally mingle some painful apprehensions with the purest christian resignation, and render a manly and becoming death, not a scene of mis-placed exultation, but of calm and dignified composure. It has been remarked, indeed, by a great writer, that "There is no passion in the mind of man, but it mates and masters the fear of death; that revenge triumphs in it; that love slights it; that grief flies to it." Nor is this surprising; since it is the nature of violent passion entirely to ocupy the thoughts and to exclude every object but itself. In the absence of any high excitement of the feelings, and where life is estimated at all its worth, and is surrounded with all its charms, we have likewise numerous and animating examples of a cool and noble sense of honour and of duty rising superior to the dread of death. Yet if we admire such conduct as an indication of firmness and dignity of mind, we acknowledge death to be an object which may justly inspire

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terror. When the victory is glorious, the enemy must have been formidable. But they are not merely selfish terrors that hang round this last enemy of man. It separates us from those whose happiness is dearer to us than our own—from those who may be looking up to us for instruction, for counsel, for protection, for support. To be insensible of what they must suffer, would not be firmness and dignity of mind, but rather a brutal callousness of heart; and where there is no cause of personal alarm, who would wish to witness, without anguish, the last moments of a dying friend; or to press his chill hand and gaze on his fixed immovable features, without experiencing the most solemn emotions?

The feeling, however, will always be modified by the particular circumstances of the case. When death closes a life of virtuous exertion, guided by just sentiments of religion, and supported by a belief in the infinite mercies of God; by a conviction that his providence extends through all his works, and that the living and the dead are alike the objects of his merciful regard, we view it as the harbinger of a blessed immortality. Age, too, which blunts the keenness of every feeling; which gradually loosens all our connexions with society, in whose active pursuits it can no longer take a part; which places us among those whose schemes and prospects, whose habits of thought and action, have little sympathy with ours, and makes us, in some degree, the inhabitants of another world, before we are removed from this—to age, when sinking under its infirmities, the grave seems to afford a secure and quiet harbour from the restless storms of life. From the same pitiless and pelting storms, long before time has deadened the capacity for action or enjoyment, the grave may be a blessed place of refuge for merit withered and blighted by neglect; for persecuted virtue; for the anguish of hopeless bodily disease; and for those sons and daughters of misfortune, to whom the world affords no prospect but that of houseless and friendless indigence. "In the grave, the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest." In these, and in many other

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cases in which we can see nothing good in life, except that it is the gift of a good God—except that it is the path through which the immortal mind of man must move to heaven, death is rather to be welcomed as a friend, than to be dreaded as an enemy. And in every case one stern consolation is afforded by the uncertainty of what is future; for though at an early period of life, and in the ordinary circumstances of fortune, the future may justly take its colouring rather from hope than fear; yet in the impenetrable gloom that rests upon it, who can tell what severity of misery may be awaiting him? If the Captain of our Salvation, pure and holy as he always was, still was "perfected by suffering," who can tell what degree of suffering the wisdom of Almighty God may judge necessary in this probationary state, for a frail and erring creature?

Military Discourse preached in the Garrison Chapel, Woolwich, and afterwards at Hilsea Barracks, by the Rev. Mr. Leggatt.

PSALM XC. V. 16.

"Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children."

WHILST then we mark the day when we behold returning into dust that mortal part of our nation's hopes, which we considered as the boon of Heaven, sent to bless us in a perpetuity of those earthly blessings, that have long richly flowed to us through the channel of the blood of her fathers, and we consider the death of our expected future Queen, as the work of the Most High, reckoning pious princes the greatest blessings to a nation, and accounting their deprivation its awful and severest judgment; let us not only bow our heads in tears, but our hearts in penitence, over her hearse; and let us commit to the grave, and bury in the tomb with her, those our secret sins and more open transgressions, which had they been

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before forsaken, might have arrested the arm of Divine Mercy in our behalf, to spare her to us, and delaying to take her to himself, to have continued her in the flesh, to her people's necessities, and his own glory.

But since it has pleased a gracious Providence not to repeat in her that ample fulfilment of the petition of his unworthy servants, which he hath been so graciously pleased to vouchsafe in the life of our revered Monarch of her line, by making her, like him, to go on from strength to strength, at once advancing the glory of her subjects, by her public rule, and their happiness by her private prayers and Christian example, till gathered like a shock of corn, in its completest earthly ripeness, into the garner of our Saviour; and her earthly body no longer capable, through the natural decay of mortality, to bear a corruptible crown, to have been changed for a glorious body, and fitted with a crown incorruptible; since it has pleased God, in her earliest trials, in the furnace of sorrow, when in the travail of her body, unsurpassed by any of her subject daughters of affliction, and unrelieved by the joy of seeing of the travail of her soul in a child being born into the world, as finding it abortive of her own, wrapped up in the hopes of a nation, the Angel of the Divine Presence so strengthened her from on high, as to make her bow, in pious resignation, to the Divine Decree, "Thy will be done:" since it has pleased Heaven to see of the fruit of her faith, and satisfied therewith, to hasten her reward in her reception to the arms of her Redeemer, and place her beyond the reach of sorrow and sin for evermore; how must the natural flow of selfishness be arrested in our bosoms, when, for the loss of an earthly diadem, and a reversionary rule over a Jerusalem on earth, in bondage, with her children, we contemplate her in possession of that Jerusalem above, in which there is no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain, as the inhabiter of a city which hath foundation, whose builder is God, of which the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the Temple, which

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hath no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it, which the glory of God doth lighten, and of which the Lamb is the light, and to which the Kings of the earth are described as bringing their glory and honour.

Sermon by Robert Gray, D. D., addressed to the Parishioners of Bishop-Wearmouth.

JEREMIAH, chap. iv. v. 10.

"Then said I, Ah, Lord God! surely thou hast greatly deceived this people, and Jerusalem, saying, Ye shall have peace; whereas the sword reacheth unto the soul."

IF we look to the circumstances of the times which seem most evidently to bear the stamp and character of divine appointment, and at the same time consider the prominent features and predominant offences which distinguish the age, we cannot but admit, that there is sufficient ground to apprehend that those afflictions which we have experienced in many recent and successive events, have had an especial reference to misconduct on our part; and that without adverting to any points of doubtful character; but confining our attention to excesses, condemned by reflecting men of every description, much of public guilt, and open ingratitude towards God, has been manifested around us; while individuals, if they will examine themselves, will feel, in conscious reflection, on many secret sins, that there is much for which they must stand self-accused in the sight of God.

If God has "removed our soul far off from peace," and if we are commanded in adversity "to consider our ways," the first feeling of deep humiliation, the first wish of deriving profit from the tribulation in which the whole kingdom participates, is to inquire whether the Lord may not have "afflicted the land for the multitude of her transgressions," and with serious examination to endeavour to ascertain, by what offences it is but too probable, that the Almighty may have been incensed against us.

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If the whole people of this kingdom, if all civilized nations, mingle their regret with associated feelings upon this occasion, it may allay even the sharpest sorrow, to reflect that a religious impression is made by this event, of which the moral and spiritual effects may be of incalculable importance. The virtuous expression of feeling, which has been manifested throughout this kingdom, must be considered as highly to the credit of the nation. It affords the strongest proof of a beneficial effect upon the public mind, and it is calculated, in the assurance of the mediation of Christ, to plead for the mitigation of the offences which we may have committed in the sight of God.

SERMON II.

PSALM XC. V. 11, 12.

"Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

IN the retrospect of the events of sacred and profane history, there are many striking relations of the premature loss of persons in whose life the most important interests, and the most anxious hopes, were concentered; but with respect to merely human occurrences, and to the failure of merely earthly grounds of confidence, an instance of equal impression; so complicated with great and extensive concerns—so momentous in all its public and private consequences—so combined with all the best affections of men, as that which we are now assembled to deplore, has rarely, if ever, occurred.

Without taking into contemplation the great ascendency which this nation has established, or the effects which have resulted from its influence over other countries, in promoting whatever is connected with the cause of humanity; in exploring and in civilizing unenlightened countries; in propagating the Gospel, or in diffusing Christian knowledge; without considering the importance of power well directed in these respects; but looking only to the maintenance of the civil and

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religious interests, which are immediately connected with attachment to the house of Brunswick, and feeling a just and reasonable anxiety for the preservation of a family distinguished for its unshaken adherence to the principles of freedom and toleration, and for the protection of a Church justly regarded as the glory of the reformation; we cannot, in the full sense of the value of the privileges which we enjoy, but feel every emotion excited when the succession to the throne, in the direct line of descent, is affected by two connected events. However we may trust in Providence for the continuance and renewal of the august family, under whose auspices we have so long flourished, and been raised to an eminence which the nation has never before attained; yet, we should be wanting in the expression of the right feeling that becomes us, if we should fail in any tribute of reasonable concern for the loss of a Princess apparently modelled to the wishes of a free and well informed people, and justly fixing and concentering in her person every affection, and every sentiment of respect.

A Discourse by C. E. De Coetlogon, A.M., Rector of Godstone, Surrey.

GEN., chap. iii. v. 19.

"Dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return."

IT is not seldom, indeed, that creatures, of capacities so very limited, are both amazed and confounded with the dispensations of Divine Providence: nor can it possibly be otherwise in the present state. Suffice it for us, that God is his own Interpreter; neither would it befit his infinite Majesty and dignity to give such insignificant reptiles an account of any of his matters. "Not deeply to discern nor much to know; mankind were born to wonder and adore." Of this, however, we may be certain, that, amidst all the obscurities with which our puny minds are agitated and puzzled, "Of him, and through him, and to him, are all things."

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How far, then, this deprivation, which casts so very heavy a gloom over our national prospects, may indeed be a political evil, it is not for us to prognosticate. That would be to travel beyond our own sphere, and lose ourselves in the regions of wild conjecture. For, what can we ken of the secret purposes or plans of an inscrutable Providence? "Fools will rush in, where Angels dare not tread:" but, "hear ye now what the Lord saith—be still, and know that I am God: for my ways are not your ways, neither are my thoughts your thoughts; for, as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." It is, however, to be feared, that this inflictive visitation has been provoked by the complicated vice and wickedness of the land; of which we shall not fail to take some seasonable notice in its proper place.

Now then, men, brethren, and fathers, admitting—as we all hope and trust—that the beloved object, whose decease we so generally mourn, is happily translated from a world of sorrow, trial, and conflict, to the blissful mansions of everlasting life, and peace, and joy—how do you suppose her beatified spirit would wish me to be employed in this solemn hour—in which we are assembled in the temple of the living God? Certainly, not in pouring forth lavish eulogiums on those faint rays of religious or virtuous excellence with which the Giver of all good might have endowed and beautified her character; but, undoubtedly, in devoting the slender abilities we may possess in improving her demise to the noblest of all purposes. To this valuable end, a few striking and awful words have been selected, which must come home to every man's bosom; because they are of universal concern: and be it carefully observed, that they were originally spoken by the eternal God himself; and spoken to you—to me—to all; and what do they say? They say to every one of us, high or low, rich or poor, young or old,

"Dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return."

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Sermon by the Rev. Howell W. Powell, preached at the Parish Church of Ripley, Yorkshire.

PSALM cii. v. 11, 12.

"My days are gone like a shadow; and I am withered like grass; but thou, O Lord, shalt endure for ever."

YES, my friends! the tenderest ties of love and friendship are soon dissolved—often when we least expect it. Earthly honors and distinctions, however justly merited, partake of the perishable nature of those who confer or receive them.—Pleasures, as we too frequently call them, are not only transitory and deceitful, but are often followed by long and bitter repentance. Riches are taken away from us by the injustice and violence of men, or escape our anxious grasp through their own instability. Glory and reputation themselves are doomed to be soon lost in the depth of eternal oblivion. Thus the torrent of the world flows on, whatever pains may be taken to stop it. Every thing is hurried along, by the rapid flight of moments as they pass; till by this constant revolution we arrive, at last, often without thinking of it,—at that fatal point, where time is at an end, and eternity begins!

The shortness and uncertainty of life are truths felt and acknowledged by all. They are themes familiar to every bosom,—to every tongue,—although, God knows, they are not always improved to the best of purposes. No descriptions of them, however, with respect to force and beauty, are any where to be met with, equal to those we find in the Holy Scriptures.

"My days are gone like a shadow, and I am withered like grass: but thou, O Lord, shalt endure for ever!" Thus spake the man after God's own heart, when his declining days and increasing infirmities brought him within view of the grave, and left him merely time enough to feel his weakness and his fall, and to adore the greatness and the mercy of his everlasting Father. He looks upon his life, sometimes like

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the smoke which vanisheth as it ascends the air—sometimes as the shadow that departeth—sometimes as the grass which withereth in the fields—sometimes as a flower, which loses its morning freshness at noon-tide, and dies under the very rays of that sun, which had just kindled it into life and beauty! How many sorrowful ideas of this kind presented themselves to the mind of the Royal penitent! How many sensible images did he find at every step, descriptive of our inconstant pleasures, and transitory greatness!

Sermon by the Rev. Jerome Alley, A. B., preached in the Parish Church of Saint Mary, Islington.

Job, chap. xxxiv. v. 18, 19, 20.

"Is it fit to say to a King, thou art wicked? and to Princes, ye are ungodly?—How much less to him that accepteth not the persons of Princes, nor regardeth the rich more than the poor? For they all are the work of his hands.—In a moment shall they die, and the people shall be troubled at midnight, and pass away: and the mighty shall be taken away without hand."

VARIOUS are the examples in Scripture of man's entire submission to the divine will. What a severe trial did the Patriarch Abraham undergo, when it pleased God to put his entire obedience to the test, and to prove which was predominant, his love for a child, or his faith in him, and consequent submission. "God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham, and he said, behold here I am." Hitherto he had been accustomed to receive declarations of favour; what, therefore, must have been his feelings, when he was called upon to take "his son, his only son Isaac, whom he loved, and to go into the land of Moriah, and offer him there for a burnt-offering." What, I say, must have been a father's feelings at such a command as this! when God said, "take now thy son;" Abraham must naturally have expected he was about to declare, by what means he would make him

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a father to many nations; how agonizing then must have been his sensations, to be thus commanded to shed the blood of his own offspring! However, his firm conviction of, and reliance on, the divine goodness and mercy, prevailed; and, without a single murmur, we are told, "he rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt-offering, and went unto the place which God had told him." But God, having put his obedience to a trial by this severe and most heart-rending requisition, was too merciful to prove it further; and seeing he would not "withhold" even his only son Isaac, he spared him, and provided another offering.

What a shining example have we here, of humble submission to the divine will!—What a confidence, that every thing the Almighty orders is for the best, to those who love him, and keep his commandments! for some great and good purpose, known only to himself. Let us, therefore, in what has, and may hereafter befal us, even in the hardest and most afflicting trials, bow with humble submission to the all-wise will of God. Firm trust in the mercy and goodness, and submission to the divine dispensations, is the best mode of passing through this world with comfort; and after our best endeavours through Christ, with hope—were it not for the hope which we have in Christ Jesus, better were it for us we had "never been born."

Sermon by R. Chatfield, LL.D., preached at Chatteris.

Rev. chap. xx. v. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.

"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the Earth and the Heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.—And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.—And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which

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were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.—And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.—And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

THE sinner's conscience, too, is a book whose leaves no time nor circumstances shall erase. Sin carries with it a memorial not to be forgotten—a sting, which no medicine can heal. We may compare the pleasures of sin to the rose, fair and fragrant to the sense, but, which conceals a thorn beneath its leaves to tear and goad the hand that plucks it. It is one of those apples of Sodom, delectable to the view, but bitter in the taste; it is one of those fabled perfumes that kill with the very scent. It is a serpent, whose bright scales and changing colours may please the eye, but will poison upon the touch. But, if the sinner's conscience should not speak, the law would speak; the book of the Scriptures, the rule of life would speak, or, that other "book, which some would interpret, is the rule of God's eternal decrees or counsels; or, as St. Chrysostom and others, the record of our lives, our qualifications and demeanours, and our deportment more especially at the hour of death."

But, not to enter into difficulties, let it be *the rule* of the Scriptures, these we know shall never pass away; the heavens and the earth may and shall—these never—no, not one jot or tittle, for this is the rule by which the hearts and lives of all men shall be tried.

Then, lastly, comes the cause; and oh, what is it, not a mere question of disputable and perishable things! not a question of life or death, of mere worldly riches or power, of honour or reputation, or opinion, but of eternal life or eternal death, of eternal glory or of eternal pain.—Our works are to be proved, our works to be examined; what we have done in the body, what we have done before men, either with their privity or without, what men may never have seen, but, what God has; the works of secret villany, the works of silent artifice or guilt, the works of lust, of envy, and malice, and cruelty,

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and uncharitableness; the works which, though not known among the world in general, are yet known to God; the works, in fine, of the heart, of the mind, and the imagination, before or though they have never been manifested in the practice! Not only, too, works, but words; for by thy words, says our Lord, "*thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned;* (Matt. xii. 37.) for, though the Almighty must know the secrets of all hearts, yet has he declared, that his judgment shall be before men and angels, that he *will be justified when he speaks, and clear when he judges.* (Psal. li. 4.)

Sermon preached by J. East, A. B., Campden.

MICAH, chap. vi. v. 9.

"The Lord's voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see thy name: hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it."

PUBLIC calamities are the voice of God to the nation. The dispensations of God are particular or general. His particular dispensations directly affect individuals: his general dispensations affect a nation or a world. When calamity visits an individual in his own person, it is the voice of God to him—it is the hand of God laid upon him. Even in this instance, however, it is not confined to the person immediately afflicted. The voice is heard—the blow is felt by his kindred, and his friends. Children weep over their parents, servants over their master. Now a nation is but a larger family, a more numerous and extensive household. The calamity, therefore, which is commissioned to summon away from the scene of mortal life, any beloved and distinguished member of the community, is to be regarded as the voice of God to all.

On the present mournful occasion, we not merely indulge a tender sorrow, on account of the peculiarly distressing manner in which our Princess closed her earthly being, but we also mourn over the deprivation, which as a nation, we have experienced.

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It is much that our reigning Prince has lost a beloved—an only daughter—an only child: it is much that her illustrious husband has lost a faithful, domestic, and affectionate consort: but it is more, that the millions of Britain are deprived of *her* who gave a fair promise of being the mother of her people, and under whose parental sway, we hoped to enjoy many long years of national prosperity. Her fall then is the voice of God to us.

Sermon preached by Rev. Mr. Cox, Hadleigh, Suffolk.

JEREMIAH, chap. xv. v. 9.

"Her sun is gone down while it was yet day."

IF we heighten the enjoyments of relative life to their utmost we shall find them mingled with sorrow; the sweetest tempers are sometimes soured; minds of similar moulds will sometimes be dissimilar; disease will awaken anxiety, and the thoughts of a separation force a sigh from the bosom; but the blessed God invites us to a union with himself, of which it may be said, and said in truth, in it "there are joys unspeakable, and full of glory." "Our fellowship," says the apostle John, "is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ." That we, whose sins have justly called down the divine displeasure; that we, whose offences have procured the forfeiture of the heavenly inheritance, should be welcomed to the very bosom of God, is surprising. "But God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son unto it, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Happy would it be should you be found penitent believers in the Saviour of the world; for a spiritual union with the Son of God is the source of celestial comforts—a sense of pardoned sin—the serene enjoyment of benevolent principles and feelings, and the assurance of the understanding, of faith, and of hope. There is also an increasing interest in the comfort of religion. When the charm of novelty is past, when what was rare becomes common, our pleasures diminish;

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but the principles and habits of religion are not destroyed by opposition, or weakened by enjoyment; every other enjoyment gradually goes to decay, but of holy people it is said, "they shall bring forth fruit in old age." Almost all the works of God have their commencement, their continuance, and termination; but religion in the soul is not subject to destruction; neither its principles, nor the comforts attending it "perish in their using." The nearer we approach the confines of the eternal world their interest increases; and when all earthly comforts fail, these animate, support, and console the mind; "the path of the just is as the shining light which shineth more and more unto the perfect day." The descending sun seems to increase in magnitude as it sinks beneath the horizon, and never does the glory of religion appear in greater splendour than when the Christian leaves the world. Some of us have been the happy spectators of seeing "living comforts in dying hours:" and it is a sight even worthy of the attention of the blessed God himself, who pointing to the departing Saint, says, "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."

Sermon by the Rev. Edward Craig, B.A., Clapham.

MICAH, chap. vi. v. 9.

"Hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it."

THE illustrious Lady, whose remains will to-day be followed to the grave by the lamentations of the whole land, was not our Sovereign, but she was heir to the throne of her grandfather, and she inherited his virtues. That early piety which gave lustre to the British crown when it encircled his brows, she seemed already to covet as her brightest distinction; and as all those religious virtues that had long endeared him to his people, sunk into that mysterious shade which overhangs his decline, we watched with affectionate hope those immortal tints kindling into greater brilliancy around his grandchild: we gazed on her as the new-born phœnix, ready in due time to

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spread her protecting wing over the people which he had left; and to soar to his brightest honours, his virtues, and his people's love.

Sermon by Thomas Strahan, Romford.

MICAH, chap. vi. v. 9.

"The Lord's voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see thy name: hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it."

THE man of wisdom—who is he? not always the man of knowledge, the man of learning, the collegian, or the academician, as *some think:* let the sacred Scripture say—let the oracles of God tell us, who is the man of wisdom. They have settled this matter beyond dispute; they inform us, that the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to depart from evil, that is understanding; so that the man who fears the Lord, and departs from evil, he is the man of *wisdom;* and this will apply, in a greater or less degree, to all those who are taught of God, and led by the Spirit of God, who is wisdom itself, and who gives wisdom to all who possess it. This is that wisdom that cometh from above, and is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. Now those who have this wisdom, every one according to his measure, will see God's "name in his voice, and in his rod." God's name intends his glory; for whatsoever the Lord does, whether in creation, providence, or grace; whether in mercy or in judgment, declares his name, and is done for his glory. Hence, he says, I am the Lord, that is my name, and my glory I will not give to another.

Sermon preached by W. Turner, Hanover-Square, Newcastle.

PSALM XXXIX. v. 5.

"Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity." Selah.

AS there is nothing in this world, the contemplation of

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which can afford a higher satisfaction to persons of just and rational sentiments, or a noble improvement to well-disposed minds, than the attentive consideration of amiable and promising characters, it would give me, I own, a sincere, though melancholy pleasure, were I able to represent to you only a slight sketch of those features of her mind, and those circumstances of her conduct, which encouraged the hope, that the Princess whom we have lost, would have swayed the sceptre with honour to herself and with happiness to the nation; and that with the aid of her excellent consort, she would have trained up the offspring, alas! with herself prematurely snatched away, to maintain, as her successor, perhaps to add to the honour of the Brunswick line, by consulting the liberty, prosperity, and happiness of the people of these realms. Her short but amiable life has exhibited but few scenes for contemplation, but these have displayed that energy of character, which emancipated her from the shackles of her sex and rank;—and, since her marriage with the husband of her choice, that pure taste for the pleasures and duties of domestic life; that strict and regular attendance on the offices of public and family worship; that constant application to the studies proper to have qualified her to discharge with honour the duties of that station, to which it had been the wish and hope of the nation to see her exalted; that affability, tempered with propriety and dignity of behaviour towards those admitted to her society; that kind and attentive condescension towards the poor whom she employed, and the neighbourhood in which she lived, which gave a sanction to the fairest hopes, that she would offer an instructive example and pattern in every department of public and private conduct to an affectionate, devoted, and happy people.

Sermon preached by S. Crowther, St. Leonard, Foster-Lane.

1 PETER, chap. i. v. 24.

"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away."

AS a further way of improving this solemn dispensation,

let us keep in mind, the very precarious tenure by which we hold all our possessions. The exalted Personage, who is thus suddenly gone, seemed likely to survive many even of the most youthful amongst us. But a few days ago, she was in the midst of those enjoyments, which render life most desirable; in the vigour of youth, in the full relish and possession of the most rational delights; honoured with titles; blessed with affluence; beloved and esteemed by all; fondly expecting the happiness which she should soon enjoy as a parent, and as the mother of a future sovereign of this highly-favoured and happy kingdom. Yet an hour, a few moments, were sufficient to extinguish in her all sense of these joys, and for ever remove her from every thing which the world holds most dear. We see by this affecting instance of mortality, that no human advantages can resist the stroke of death, that all earthly glory like the flower of the field must wither and decay; that they who are most exalted in rank must obey the summons, no less than the most obscure and indigent. Thus it is with the lives of men, as with the course of rivers: some traverse a greater extent, and pass through more pleasant scenes than the others; but all equally tend to the same abyss, and are blended at last in one common receptacle. How should this consideration cool the ardour of dissipation; humble the insolence of pride; moderate the flame of ambition; and quench the insatiable thirst of avarice!—in a word, wean our hearts from the things that are seen and temporal, and fix them on those that are unseen and eternal!—For to what does all, even the best of this world, amount? Stretch your imagination to the utmost—conceive a person in the full possession of rank, and power, and riches, and honour. And when you have finished the gaudy picture, what does the value of it amount to? the scene is vanity, and ends in vexation of spirit. O! that I could so shew you the emptiness of these things, and the great importance of things eternal, as to send you away heartily resolved to seek a better and more enduring substance than this world can afford!—I should

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then gain one of the noblest ends of my office, and we should have reason to acknowledge our meeting together this day to have been for the better, and not for the worse.

Sermon by the Rev. Johnson Grant, M.A., St. Pancras.

2 CHRONICLES, chap. XXXV. v. 24.

"And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah."

GRATEFUL indeed to thee, sacred Shade! if the beatified are ever permitted to behold the affairs of this lower world; and if the high glories of eternity can be enhanced by any satisfaction arising from this imperfect scene; grateful, even amidst the troop of clustering spirits, who have received thee, and in the first possession of that immortal youth, that amaranth garland, for which thou hast, happily for thyself, but mournfully for those who are left, exchanged a fading crown and a crown of cares; grateful must be this universal respect and regret, which a nation, and almost a world, sends after thee into the heavens. It becomes not us, indeed, to arraign the counsels of Providence, for human nature might otherwise be apt to wonder in its blindness, (if we may employ the language of an eloquent writer) why virtue in the bloom of spring is so suddenly snatched away, whilst vice, full blown in iniquity, endures and grows, and weathers out its period, till the decay of nature extinguishes the poisonous nuisance; why this benefactress of her neighbourhood and of society, must no longer bestow her bounty, no longer make the indigent smile, or wipe away the tears of the afflicted; why SHE must no longer dispense her blessings, whilst the scourges and tormentors of man too often continue the curses of the age in which they live. We know not.—But she is gone for ever; the tears of the people will moisten her tomb, and their loud lamentation testify their sorrow.

Sermon by the Rev. W. Thomas, Chase-Side, Enfield.

LAMENTATIONS, chap. v. v. 15.

"The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning."

WE have lost not only a rare example of connubial tender-

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ness and attachment; we have lost what is vastly beyond even this—an example of personal religion! It is asserted upon good authority, that the royal pair maintained family worship in the morning and evening of each day. What a singular instance in exalted life! Well might these personages resolve not to mix with the fashionable world; they well knew that the practice of family prayer could not be kept up with such connexions, and they wisely and magnanimously determined for God and religion against the practice, and perhaps in despite of the sneers of a large proportion of what is called the *great world*. Their regular attendance, on the Lord's day, on the public worship of God, will, I trust, become an effectual rebuke to those who, from whatever motive, with whatever excuse, neglect "the assembling of themselves together."

Sermon preached by the Rev. Weeden Butler, Pimlico.

ISAIAH, chap. XXVI. v. 20.

"Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast."

YE sons and daughters of fashion and dissipation, ye pampered, delicate, and easy of heart, who daily, monthly, and yearly, court the smiles of wayward fortune, and give up all your hours to sloth, and self-indulgence; oh! be for once persuaded to learn wisdom from the tomb of the Princess Charlotte: open the eyes of your understanding, before you, too, like her, shall sleep the sleep of death! Look around you, and behold the eternal Godhead, in this his tremendous dispensation, demanding all your attention, all your care and watchfulness. The deadly arrow, that flieth in darkness, hath gone forth; it hath struck no common victim; and all the assiduous efforts of medical skill to withstand its force proved vain. The hardy champions of our cause, in battles by sea and land, have often conquered and been divested of their strength; within these few years a most able and virtuous

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prime minister has been martyred; our wise and religious monarch, at the death of a beloved daughter, has long been bereft of understanding; and now to crown the climax, youth, and sense, and beauty, and every dignified unobtrusive female excellency, in an hour of peculiarly affecting interest, are despoiled of their complexions, their charms, and their existence.—Yes, Britons! our blooming and beloved Princess, the presumptive heiress to the throne, is now no more.

Sermon preached by the Rev. Robert Philip, Newington Chapel, Liverpool.

GENESIS, XXXV. v. 16, 17, 18, 19, 20.

"And they journeyed from Beth-el; and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath: and Rachel travailed, and she had hard labour.—And it came to pass, when she was in hard labour, that the midwife said unto her, Fear not; thou shalt have this son also.—And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Ben-oni: but his father called him Benjamin.—And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem.—And Jacob set a pillar upon her grave: that is the pillar of Rachel's grave unto this day."

AWARE, as I was, how the doleful tidings must affect a devoted and intelligent people; still I could not have conceived that any thing short of a universal earthquake—or the blast of the archangel's trumpet, would have produced the gloom and consternation which now surround us; and who, that contemplated Britain the week before this catastrophe, and saw her vast population labouring in their respective spheres of action, as if nothing could divert them from gain or gaiety, as if every individual felt only for himself? who that saw this could have named any event, not miraculous, *which, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye,* would banish mirth from all the gay, and composure from all the serene—make the merchant lay down his pen, and the mechanic his tools—unrobe the bride of her ornaments, and the bridegroom of his attire—turn the house of feasting into a house

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of mourning, and command a pause to pleasure and business. Like the shaking amongst the dry bones in the valley of vision; such a shock was inconceivable from natural impulse. Sleep departed from the fatigued and the thoughtless for a time—honour and wealth seemed to be insipid—the orphan forgot his exposure, the widow her desolation, and the widower the "*wife of his youth,*" in the more aggravated woes of Claremont; and, by an instantaneous movement, the whole community seemed to discover that their personal comfort had been suspended on the Princess. "*One dead*" in every family could not have excited more general consternation.

Sermon preached by the Rev. John Naune, D. D., Ashford.

St. Mark, chap. v. v. 39.

"The damsel is not dead, but sleepeth."

WE feel that the Almighty has taken away the best hope of the country; we sanguinely entertain the hope that our departed Princess has exchanged a corruptible for an incorruptible inheritance: that her crown is no longer temporal but eternal. God forbid we should be compelled to fear, that she is removed from this lower world, that she may avoid any national calamity; that she is classed among those righteous who are taken away from the evil to come. An intimate knowledge of her virtues, when compared with the practices of the majority of this nation, and with the vices which we are daily implanting from our infidel neighbours, too well warrant such an apprehension.

Sermon preached by the Rev. Peter Roe, A. M., Kilkenny.

1 Peter, chap. i. v. 24, 25.

"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:—But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the Gospel is preached unto you."

AT the termination of a long and sanguinary war, throughout which the Lord signally prospered our enterprises, our land

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was scourged by scarcity, and threatened with actual famine; our very existence was to all appearance at stake—and had the Lord continued to pour down rain for a little longer, despair would have pervaded every part of our land. Whilst witnessing the divine goodness, in averting this calamity, a voice has been heard from another quarter, announcing, that all the thunderbolts of the Almighty are not exhausted—that his hand still holds the government of the universe, and that, if sinners will not seek mercy at his hand, he will cause them to smart beneath the lash of his indignation. What may be the immediate purpose of God in depriving us at once of two direct heirs to the British Crown we cannot tell; but the heart of every loyal man will testify that he feels it to be a scourge—because every such man is sensible of the blessings he enjoys under our unrivalled constitution—of the sterling value of the principles which placed the House of Brunswick on the throne of this realm—and of the protection which has been uniformly given to civil and religious liberty by the reigning Princes of that illustrious family.

Sermon preached by the Rev. C. F. Fenwick, B. D.

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1 CORINTHIANS, chap. xv. v. 54.

"So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory."

WHEN the wife or husband awaits in bitter anguish the fast approaching hour that is to sever the closest, the dearest, and most sacred of all worldly ties; when either behold that bosom on which they so oft have rested, convulsed with the efforts of expiring nature; those eyes which have so often beamed on them with virtuous love and pleasure, sinking fast into the cold and lifeless gaze of death; those lips which have so often blest them with the accents of love and friendship, which have consoled them in their distress, heightened all their enjoyments, and directed them in all their doubts; now alas! faltering their last vows of fidelity and love, bestowing

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the few remaining accents the anxious soul can spare from God, to hallow with the parting breath of gratitude the memory of departed joys, and the fondest of earthly attachments: what is it that in such an hour can guard the seat of reason from darkness, and the mourner from despair?

Sermon preached by the Rev. W. Taylor, D. D., Glasgow.

EZEKIEL, chap. xxiv. v. 16.

"Son of man, behold, I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke: yet neither shalt thou mourn nor weep, neither shall thy tears run down."

IT is remarkable of this amiable Princess, for whom we mourn, that her thoughts and her conversation, when she conceived it not improper, turned, as if by some unaccountable presentiment, upon death, and the way to meet it. In the bloom of youth, and amidst the splendour of greatness, she gave way to such serious and affecting contemplations, as if, in truth, she seemed to have more solicitude to make ready for a death-bed, than to prepare for a throne. We were early led to expect a considerate mind. When she grew up, she conducted herself with great prudence in a situation where there was no little difficulty; at the same time fulfilling her duties, and preserving her affections. And in the great step of life, on which happiness so much depends, she acted with the independence of a noble mind, and the wisdom of an enlightened one; and chose wisely.

Sermon preached by the Rev. J. Thomas Holloway, at Whitby.

LUKE, chap. vii. v. 35.

"But wisdom is justified of all her children."

OF the practical influence of Christian piety on the heart and life, we have a most unequivocal proof in the example of the late Princess. In the worship of God she was steady and decided, especially in the observance of the Sabbath, which she uniformly consecrated to the service of her Maker. From the energy and seriousness with which she entered into the whole service of the church, she disclosed the feelings of her

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mind, and sufficiently demonstrated the interest she took in it. The solemnity of her manner seemed to bespeak the importance of her errand—to say, that her object was not merely external adoration, but inward communion—that *her* religion was not eye-service, but heart-work.

Sermon preached by the Rev. James Pilkington, Rayleigh.

JEREMIAH, chap. ix. v. 20, 21.

"Yet hear the word of the Lord, O ye women, and let your ear receive the word of his mouth, and teach your daughters wailing, and every one her neighbour lamentation.—For death is come up into our windows, and is entered into our palaces, to cut off the children from without, and the young men from the streets."

THE works of God were known before the foundation of the world. God had not only an intention to accomplish all his purposes, but he purposed to accomplish nothing which would not ultimately manifest his own glory, and the justice of his government, in rewarding the righteous, and punishing the wicked. In the execution of his will for this purpose, all respect for persons or things is overlooked. He casteth down one, and raiseth up another; and, though in this work, his hand is frequently not unobserved in his disposal of private persons, yet it is in the subversion of kings, and revolutions of empires, that evidence is shewn, that the Lord is king, and reigneth unto the ends of the earth. Thus he dealt with Nebuchadnezzar, thus he made known his sovereignty to the Jews of old, for whom Jeremiah makes such pathetic lamentations; and, however the profane unbeliever may deride the supposition, the Christian rests assured, that in the removal of the Princess Charlotte and her offspring, God had an object in view which his people will not be long in discerning.

Sermon preached by the Rev. W. Lamport, Lancaster.

AMOS, chap. viii. v. 9, 10.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord God, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:—And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; and I will bring up sackcloth upon all loins, and

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baldness upon every head; and I will make it as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day."

EDUCATED with all the care that superior endowments in her instructors could bestow, and with all the success that superior faculties in herself could ensure, our beloved Princess had no sooner completed her course of preparation for royalty, than she found a mind, a heart, a soul resembling her own. She became united, under the most favourable auspices, to the man of her first and firmest choice. With him she passed a portion of life in its happiest state. To every other blessing was added the hope of perpetuating a name and a family, that had both given and received honour in the land of her birth; the circle in which she moved was all illumination and gladness; she had experienced no calamity; and if she had witnessed it, she had the power and the will to alleviate it. She could "weep with them that wept," but it was only to rejoice with those whom her bounty comforted. Thus "set on high from affliction" in her early days, she "rejoiced evermore." Her's was a joy of the countenance, by which as well as its sadness, "the heart is made better." No preparative of early calamity was sent to wean her mind to a gradual estrangement from the world and its pleasures. No long series of bereavement had bent her spirit downward to the voluntary and cherished contemplation of "the dust from whence she came."—Desolation spread over her path as a flood, when the storm ariseth on a sudden, her "sun went down at noon," and "the land was darkened."

Sermon by the Rev. W. Darnsfield, Over.

1 KINGS, xiv. v. 12, 13.

"Arise thou therefore, get thee to thine own house: and when thy feet enter into the city, the child shall die.—And all Israel shall mourn for him, and bury him: for he only of Jeroboam shall come to the grave, because in him there is found some good thing toward the Lord God of Israel in the house of Jeroboam."

IF you be in a state of impenitency, if you are estranged from God and religion, if you are living in the habitual neglect

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of your immortal souls, this is for a lamentation, and it shall be for a lamentation, and if timely repentance prevent not, to you it shall be an eternal lamentation. Let me entreat you to call to mind the privileges, the invaluable privileges with which Providence has favoured you. Remember the Sabbaths you have spent, the sermons you have heard, the admonitions that have been given you, the warnings that have been sent you, and if you still go on in your trespasses, if you still continue to be ungodly and irreligious, the Lord will punish you yet seven times more for your sins. And remember, that all these sabbaths, these sermons, these admonitions, these warnings will rise up against you in judgment to your eternal condemnation.

Sermon preached by the Rev. James Holme, Southminster.

DEUTERONOMY, chap. xxxii. v. 29.

"O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!"

YET was there, in her case, however deplorable, this alleviating circumstance, that she was not doomed to a length of suffering. Among the sore trials which are incident to frail mortality, few are to be accounted more distressing than to be afflicted with a long and painful sickness without the slightest hope of recovery. The door is continually open to the grave; and the grave is continually open to receive its victim; and its only refuge from anguish is in that cold bed; and gladly would the afflicted sufferer "be with those that rest;" yet days, and weeks, and months pass on, without bringing the wished relief. Those whom it pleases God so to visit have great need to add to their faith patience, and to patience hope.—It was thus another amiable Princess was cut off a few years ago, whose loss, it is well known, was the immediate cause of our revered Sovereign's affliction. Day after day was spent in anguish, and as many nights were numbered, that brought not the refreshment of sleep. "Tired nature's sweet restorer," came not to her relief. And all the while the only prospect of a release from her misery was—in death. Health had fled for ever.

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Medicine could promise nothing. Here was an object deserving the pity of the most forlorn and destitute. That the amiable sufferer was not distracted with the horrors of her situation, but met her approaching change with fortitude, is a proof of her dutiful submission to the will of her Maker; is a proof how well she had profited by the lessons of a religious father; and that she was able to look beyond the grave with confidence, through Christ, that her triumph over temporal afflictions would "work for her a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

Sermon preached by the Rev. H. J. Knapp, St. Andrew Undershaft.

PSALM cxlvi. v. 2, 3.

"While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.—Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help."

GRIEVE now, O parents! for great, and at present matchless, is your loss!—Yet, while you most lament her dead, be ready most to shew forth in yourselves that she has lived. Be eminent in conjugal fidelity (that bond and crown of domestic happiness); she has taught you to concentrate there your tenderest affections, your highest earthly joys. Removed from the vortex of dissipation (which lures many an unheeding creature to her ruin), in her you beheld a model of the pure love of truth, of peaceful contentment, of time marked by sedulous occupation, of select and improving converse, of the strict observance of her Christian duties. Children! in her you saw dutiful obedience and a fixed unshaken regard to her parents. Lament, ye laborious and afflicted! for your best benefactress is no more! Well may your tears now flow for her, who felt and wept for you. But, O ye subjects! whose breasts now are sympathetic with that of the royal, interesting, exemplary mourner; how can your grief be with justice portrayed on this most melancholy occasion? To yourselves it can but be expressed; for what the heart most deeply feels it were vain to expect that words can adequately convey.

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Sermon preached by the Rev. Archdeacon Pott, St. Martin in the Fields.

ECCLES. vii. v. 1.

"A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth."

ONLY before I quit the theme of personal and distinguished worth, having touched one point on that pattern, impossible it is not to remember that for the encouragement of every good and seasonable exercise of duty or of preparation for a day of peril, there was, in addition to the prompt, spontaneous, and well-cultivated inclinations of a virtuous mind, formed carefully from early infancy to good principles, and apt and ready to imbibe them,—there was the nearest possible example of congenial virtues, derived from the happiest and most hopeful union, and operating with increasing efficacy to strengthen every good impression in the heart, and to confirm, enlarge, and perfect every noble quality.

Sermon preached by the Rev. John James, Oundle.

MATTHEW vi. v. 10.

"Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."

HER growing attachment to religion was so conspicuous; her "light so shone before men," that the richest and the poorest might alike imitate her. She remembered the sabbath-day and kept it holy with marked solemnity, as well by publicly worshipping God, as by studying the holy Scriptures in private, and striving, under the divine blessing upon her pious endeavours, to gain understanding "in the way of godliness." A few days before her expected hour of trial as a mother, she received "the most comfortable Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ," to seal her covenant with a reconciled God, through the merits of her Redeemer's sacrifice. By so doing she sought to fortify her mind against the fears which naturally assailed her, and to gain the aid of that grace which is never sought in vain.

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Sermon by the Rev. B. Williams, St. Stephen, Walbrook.

PROVERBS, chap. xxviii. v. 1.

"The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion."

AS to sympathy, never perhaps was the disposition more generally diffused, or so acutely felt, or so strikingly displayed. Perhaps, not even the mourning at Megiddo and Hadadrimmon; certainly nothing in modern history can shew its parallel!—Who that hath beheld this day the streets of our great empire, and hath ever seen the like? Here is not only the outward garb of sorrow, but there is the indication in every countenance of that within which passeth show. 'Tis as if the general pulse of life stood still, and made an awful pause, prophetic of her end!—'Tis somewhat in appearance as was once in Egypt,—as if in every house some one was dead!

Sermon by the Rev. C. S. Hawtrey, M.A., Episcopal Jews' Chapel, Bethnal-Green.

REVELATION, chap. iii. v. 19.

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent."

WE cannot forget that it has been in the prime of her youth, in the very blossom of her days, that this fair flower has been cut down; it embitters our recollection to reflect, that she was not worn out with any lasting decay, but that even within a few days of her decease, she was in the full enjoyment of health of body and vigour of mind, and possessed of every blessing which this world can afford. Filled with mingled sensations of grief and astonishment at such an unlooked-for vicissitude, we behold an awful proof of the truth of God's word. The time too when the hope of our country has been cut off has tended in no small degree to add to the bitterness of our grief. It was in the very moment when the joyful expectation of a far different result universally prevailed; when we were waiting to hail the birth of an heir, who under God might prove a blessing to future generations: we were not only disap-

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pointed in that hope for the present, but we saw *her* vanish in an instant from our view, through whom alone there was a prospect of such a desire being accomplished. The edge of this chastisement is also sharpened by the remembrance that there were so many things in this heiress to our throne, that were calculated to endear her to the inhabitants of Britain.

Catholicon.

VAIN would be the attempt to describe the general impression made by this direful and unexpected calamity on the hearts of every Briton, of whatever rank or station, sect or party. All seem to acknowledge a visitation on their sins in that bolt, which, in striking the royal house, and bereaving it of its natural succession, bereft them also of her whom they regarded, as she merited, with an ardour of affection worthy of the most enviable days of high-toned chivalry.

Sermon by the Rev. H. Phillpotts, M.A., St. Margaret's, Durham.

GENESIS, chap. iii. v. 19.

"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

LET not our feelings waste themselves in idle lamentation, still less on the vain parade of an ostentatious sensibility. It is indeed honourable to the age in which we live that so much grief is felt for the loss of a Princess, whom few of us have ever seen, and fewer can have aspired to know. Combined with the heartfelt sympathy which the affliction of our venerable Sovereign has excited, it affords the best rebuke of that false philosophy which has dared to deny the possibility of a nation loving its rulers, or entertaining towards them any warmer sentiments than respect.

Sermon preached by the Rev. T. Jervis, Mill-Hill Chapel, Leeds.

1 CORINTHIANS, chap. vii. v. 31.

"The fashion of this world passeth away."

PERHAPS no single circumstance in the eventful history of

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this country, has at any period produced a sensation of such general interest and such deep concern; I may at least venture to say, none so combined with sentiments of tenderness and affection, as that which gives rise to the solemnities of the day. It is felt in every corner of the empire—might I not add, in every part of Europe and the continent of America; and, I am proud to observe, that this tribute of respect for the character, and affection for the memory, of the young Princess, whose untimely fate we are met this day publicly to deplore, are the more appropriate, the more gratifying, and the more honourable, inasmuch as they are not imposed by authority, not prompted by the miserable motives of party spirit, or the paltry prejudices of political intrigue.

Sermon preached by Rev. James Pringle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

MICAH, chap. vi. v. 9.

"The Lord's voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see thy name: hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it.

HOW much then are we indebted to the sacred records for that wisdom which is profitable to direct. Not to mention the salutary effects of the Bible, wherever it is possessed and perused, and understood and felt, in the temporal condition of mankind, in proving a powerful stimulus to industry, order, science, learning—to every thing, in short, that can improve individual character, and lend a charm to the social intercourse of human life; its influence on pure religion and sound morality, together with its intimate relationship to the great realities of the eternal world, prove its paramount importance to the children of men.

Sermon preached by the Rev. Rich. Winter Hamilton, Leeds.

JEREMIAH, chap. xv. v. 9.

"Her sun is gone down while it was yet day."

FEMALE example possesses an influence that few can appreciate; it is piety in an angel's form; and when it is united with the adventitious endowment of titular distinction and

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splendid opulence, it has every organ of impression and of control. What authority of character, what energy of virtue, might she have displayed! How would vice have been rebuked in her presence, and been eager to flee her face! How, beneath the influence of the gospel, which brings "good-will to man," would her cabinet have become the temple of peace! How would she have preferred the rule of a quiet people to the throne of belligerent ambition, or to the thunderbolt of horrid war! How would her court have been the sanctuary of modest purity, of charitable munificence, of pious sacrifice! Attached, as we may suppose she would be to the episcopacy in which she had been educated, and which the oath of coronation would have bound her to support, we yet indulge the hope that she might have been a "nursing mother" to the universal church, and the representative daughter of that "Zion, which is the joy of the whole earth."

Sermon preached at Weston-Green Chapel, near Claremont, by the Rev. James Churchill.

JER. IX. 21.

"For death is come up into our windows, and is entered into our palaces, to cut off the children from without, and the young men from the streets."

HER mind, from its earlier days, appears to have been cast in a mould favourable to religion. Her education invited not only her thorough acquaintance with the letter of Christianity, but her imbibing its spirit. Her preceptors had not stony ground to cultivate; they needed not to plough deep to impress the soil, for they can bear testimony, that when, in the course of her reading, she came to any pathetic parts, she was frequently dissolved in tears! Her very attentive and devotional manner of repeating the different parts of the family service observed at Claremont, powerfully reminds me of her being a descendant of our venerable and afflicted King; whose very solemn manner the preacher had once the pleasure of witnessing in one of the royal chapels.

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Sermon preached by the Rev. John Williams, Mansfield.

LAMENTATIONS, chap. v. v. 16, 17.

"The crown is fallen from our head: woe unto us, that we have sinned!—For this our heart is faint; for these things our eyes are dim."

THAT, which hath happened to one in the most exalted station and of the highest rank, may be the condition of the meanest individual. That life which appears to be the most secure may be the most precarious; those pleasures, and those agreeable and animating prospects, which seem to be the most permanent, and the most extensive, may soon and unexpectedly be annihilated. Where is the individual, *who hath made a league with death and a covenant with the grave?* Into what house or into what family is this mighty conqueror forbidden to make his sudden and destructive inroads?—Against whom is his arm stayed, and who is shielded from his impending stroke? Not the young, for one in the morning of life has been taken away—not the noble, for one of the most illustrious has fallen—not the good, for one of the most virtuous hath perished *For this our heart is faint; for these things our eyes are dim."*

Sermon preached by the Rev. W. A. Armstrong, A. B., Cheshunt.

1 CORINTHIANS, chap. XV. v. 53.

"For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality."

IN still contemplating the public character of the dear departed one, whom we shall love to hold in everlasting remembrance, and to whom all future ages will look back with pride and praise, be it our happiness to know that all the virtues gathered round her were the rich produce of her faith in Christ. It was not fashion, interest, or vanity, that made her virtuous. She was a Christian from principle; her noble spirit would have disdained the trammels of superstition, even though a crown and all its dignity, or poverty with all its shame, had been the great alternatives. She was a Christian too, not only when she kneeled beneath a velvet canopy, or drank of the sacred element of Christ's holy blood from the splendid chalice, but when in her chamber and alone.

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Sermon by the Rev. R. Beachcroft, Blanham.

GENESIS, chap. xxiii. v. 6.

"Hear us, my lord: thou art a mighty prince among us: in the choice of our sepulchres bury thy dead; none of us shall withhold from thee his sepulchre, but that thou mayest bury thy dead."

THE contemplative mind cannot say to itself, "How shall I bear this stroke?" for it has no time for contemplation. And ought we not to believe that these appointments are ordained in mercy? We could not without the strongest faith behold such objects. The eagle's eye is alone constructed to approach the sun. We dare not, we must not, anticipate such scenes. Rather let us pray for grace to be prepared to meet them; but let us leave their time, their method, their attendant circumstances, their continuance, to the sole direction of infinite and unerring wisdom, and almighty goodness.

Sermon preached by the Rev. S. Spooner, Roman Catholic Chapel, Stonehouse.

GEN. chap. iii. v. 19.

"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

THERE is not a flower which her hands have watered, or a shrub which they have reared, which I should not be proud to possess. They who know me must either be deficient in discernment, or they must be too well aware of the unbending nature of my principles, ever to expect me to offer incense to a crown, when unadorned by merit.

Sermon preached by the Rev. J. Jarrom, Wisbeach.

JER. chap. viii. v. 15.

"We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold trouble."

THE young Princess is no more in this world, her spirit has taken its flight, and her mortal part has gone the way of all flesh. Her youth, her rank, her honour, and prospects,

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could not preserve her from the hand of death. She is taken from her country, her family, her afflicted consort, and her expected crown, to that world whence there is no return.

Sermon preached by the Rev. E. Maltby, D. D., Buckden.

ECCLES. chap. xii. v. 7, 8.

"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.—Vanity of vanities, saith the preacher; all is vanity."

TO princes then, and to the great ones of the earth, the melancholy event, we are now bewailing, reads a most instructive lesson. It teaches them that the noblest birth, the most elevated rank, are no more exempt from the evils incident to mortality, than the meanest origin, or the humblest condition. It teaches, that it is appointed unto them, in common with their poorest subjects, once to die, and after that, the judgment. It proclaims that, although their destinies are high, their responsibility is tremendous. It instructs them, that although their temptations to heedless enjoyments may be stronger than those of other men, yet that their opportunities, and their motives to act right, are, in proportion, more frequent and more urgent.

Sermon preached by the Rev. J. Foxell, Penzance.

ECCLESIASTES, chap. xii. v. 7.

"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it."

WHERE could another case be found encircled with such a wide circumference of bliss and hope? But what are the expectations of man? What is all the glory of the world? What is there here below, the possession of which we are sure of retaining for a moment? This rising luminary which cheered our horizon is suddenly extinguished; two generations of princes are cut off at a stroke, and all their beauty and royalty are prostrated in the grave! By a warning, which sounds from one end of the kingdom to the other, we are shewn, that man at his best state is altogether vanity; that the fashion of this world passeth away; and that they who rule as God, must die like man.

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Sermon preached by the Rev. Joseph Prendergast, Burnham.

LUKE, chap. vii. v. 12.

" Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her."

YES! the Princess is not dead. She lives!—but not clogged with mortal flesh. She lives as a pure spirit. True, she no longer worships in " temples made with hands," but she worships with those " tens of thousands of every nation and people," who sing triumphant songs in that building of God " which is eternal in the heavens."

May these views of the immortality of the soul, and of the union in another state of the spirits of just men made perfect, actuate and console us in all our struggles and difficulties; and, in particular, may they touch the heart of him who feels more deeply than we the melancholy circumstance which is the subject of these reflections.

Sermon preached by the Rev. J. Kennedy, Teston, Kent.

1 PETER, chap. i. v. 24.

" For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away."

VIEWED as a daughter, we see her an example of filial duty; as a wife, of conjugal tenderness and affection, seeking happiness for herself and her beloved prince in all those pleasing domestic joys that religion teaches and ensures; from the principles of that religion, voluntarily and from choice withdrawing herself from the follies and dissipations of a giddy, thoughtless world.

Sermon preached by the Rev. W. Harris, Cambridge.

2 SAM. chap. i. v. 17.

" And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son."

ONE class alone of my hearers may feel too sensibly this calamitous event. If I might distinguish them I would say,

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why should those who are expecting the period of maternal solicitude, lose on this account their hope of support and deliverance? Their great Preserver still lives. They have the same cause as ever for dependence upon him. In his gracious hands their valuable lives are as secure as if the present occasion of our sorrows had not occurred. Let them make the event a reason not for augmented anxiety, but for redoubled prayer, and more vigorous exercise of faith.

Sermon preached by the Rev. J. Palmer, Shrewsbury.

1 PETER, chap. i. v. 24, 25.

"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:—But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the Gospel is preached unto you."

WHO are they that we may compare with the flowers of the field, and consider as the glory of man? They are those in every nation who fear God, and work righteousness, who are remarkable for their faith, their piety, their benevolence, their wisdom, their learning, their usefulness; and may I not ask, what field, or what part of the habitable globe has produced so many choice, useful, and excellent flowers as Great Britain, our highly favoured—our beloved—our native land?

Sermon preached by the Rev. W. Parslow, Yardley.

HEB. chap. xiii. v. 14.

"For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come."

AS a wife, she presented an admirable example of the duties of the conjugal state; as a companion, she shone in all the lustre of a vast and comprehensive mind, cultivated and refined and adorned with all the accomplishments that can render society delightful. She was the patroness of merit, the support of indigence and distress; all around her dwelling seemed animated and cheered by her benign and protecting influence.

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Sermon preached by the Rev. John Lockhart, D. D., Glasgow.

PSALM cxii. v. 6.

"Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance."

POSSESSED of singular decision of character, amiable in domestic life, abounding in compassion and liberality to the poor, she appears to have been fully prepared for mingling with the spirits of the just and standing before God; and as we have reason to think, that her prospect of one day ascending an earthly throne was accompanied with the desire to act faithfully, with a sacred regard to the authority of God, and to the rights and privileges of the subjects of this free government; we may therefore warrantably draw the conclusion: "It was well that it was in her heart."

First Sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Aitken, Scotch Church, Sunderland.

DEUTERONOMY, chap. xxxii. v. 29.

"O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!"

COULD the riches, or the honours of the world, could noble birth, exalted rank, or distinguished worth, have averted the stroke of death, we should not now have been clothed in the symbols of grief, nor called upon to shed the tear of sorrow;—we should now have been as elate with joy, as we are sunk in despair. But nothing can save us from the general doom. It is appointed to all men once to die; and only an assured interest in Christ Jesus, and a well-grounded anticipation of those blessings which he died to purchase and lives to bestow, can dispel the gloom of the grave. Let such, then, as tread in the higher walks of life, remember, that whatsoever may now be their possessions, the time will come when they shall have no pleasure in them, and when only a small spot of earth shall be their own;—it shall be occupied by others, who like them, shall have the worm for their com-

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panion and sister; who, like them, shall moulder into dust, as the clods of the valley: and may they be led to seek after that better part which shall remain with them at death, and through eternity!

Second Sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Aitken, Scotch Church, Sunderland.

MATTHEW, chap. xxvi. v. 42.

"—— Thy will be done."

IN applying the spirit of our text to the melancholy occasion of our present meeting, in calling upon you at this time to say in the language of our Saviour, THY WILL BE DONE, we well know, my brethren, the extent of our demand,—we well know the difficulty of the task it is our duty to assign. Can the affectionate child restrain the filial tear, when the indulgent father has ceased to extend a father's love? Can the fond parent forget the child of his affections. even before the cold remains of all that was lovely and good are committed to the tomb? Can the hapless widow, or the bereaved husband, cease to mourn, while yet are recent the wounds of divided love? Can the fond expectant, at once forget all the hopes which he cherished, and all the pangs of disappointment which he hath felt? Then also, may we at this time, amidst the pale ensigns of death, amidst the wreck of our fondest expectations and our fairest hopes,—then may we, even while the alarm of death tolls in our ears the knell of departed worth, forget a parent's sorrow, a husband's grief, a nation's loss! But nature must feel; the tear of sorrow will glisten in the eye; the sigh of regret will not be suppressed. On such an occasion, it is not unmanly, it is not unchristian to mourn. Our lamented Princess, our expected Queen, deserved our love, and her memory claims the tribute of a tear. But while we yield to the impulse of nature, while we would even cherish that tender susceptibility, which leads us to mourn with those who mourn, let us not, at the same time, call in question Heaven's righteous decree; let us not impiously murmur nor

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complain. Let us feel,—but with perfect confidence in divine wisdom, power, and goodness, let us also say, *the will of God be done!*

Thus said our lovely Princess, in one of those trying scenes, which interest every amiable affection of our nature; and thus hath she taught us, on the present most melancholy occasion, to moderate our grief, and meekly to resign ourselves to the will of Him, by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice. But she was so good, so much all that a parent, a husband, a nation could desire; she was so endeared to our hearts, so connected with our every future hope of individual happiness and national prosperity, that we cannot easily dry up the tear of sorrow, nor suppress the sigh of regret; we cannot easily forget the pleasing anticipations in which we so lately indulged, nor repel the now rising dread of yet greater evil to come.

Sermon by the Rev. James Browne, Bradfield and North Walsham.

ISAIAH, chap. xl. v. 6, 7, 8.

"The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: the grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass.—The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

AS human beings we must be lost to every feeling that can do honour to our nature, if we can contemplate the circumstances of this bereavement with unhallowed indifference, or pass over the humbling event without deprecating the alarming danger to which the birth of a descendant of Adam exposes the life of the female parent. The recompense of her throes, and the reward of her travailing anguish have been united in the infliction of the poisoned arrows of the *King of Terrors*. Beauty, youth, intelligence, and the gayest prospects of domestic enjoyments had made the heart of her *Serene* partner to beat high. But after having had his hopes elevated to their highest pitch, the melancholy event which gives birth to the present meeting, has wrung his soul with anguish, and

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he beholds his consort sunk from his arms into the jaws of death. Let us attempt to soothe the powerful emotions of our minds, by turning our eyes from the interior of the palace. But distress follows us into every avenue where we wished to shun its appearance; every circle resounds with the mournful theme, and all ranks feel an agitation which no language can describe! What has stagnated commerce in the emporium of nations?—What has made the inhabitants of Britain lay aside their gayest vestures and clothe themselves in sable garbs (as though each had lost a partner, or an offspring, or a friend)? What strange event has so effectually spoken in the bar of conscience, and sternly prohibited the use of theatrical amusements—the usual relief of those whose principal end of living is to dissipate by illusions the thoughts of their own mortality?

ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΑ.

By an under Graduate of Oxford.

OUR Princess appears to have been open, ingenuous, and artless in her manner and in her heart. Goodness and charity were wafted into her soul as by the airs of heaven. Her affections were straight and pure—unwarped and untainted by the infectious breath of a court. Her steady attachment to her mother, without suffering her mind to be influenced by any personal relations or things, shewed her singleness of heart. She was her parent—it was a word of no common import to her. Filial affection was a duty—she felt it so. Whatever may be the faults or misfortunes of that unhappy princess, every heart of honest feeling must honour the pure sentiments of the daughter. As a wife, she was eminently exemplary. Notwithstanding the corruption of the court, her simplicity and pureness of heart could not be broken. The foul breath of dissipation and incontinence could not taint "the enamel to the beauty of her soul."

THE END.

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